

Miners reject output deal and press ahead with £135 claim

Britain's miners dealt a damaging blow to the income policy and brought closer the possibility of a clash with the Government when they unexpectedly rejected a productivity scheme that could have given rises of £23.50 a week. Their union is now committed to

pursuing a £135-a-week claim for coalface workers. Sir Derek Ezra, coal board chairman, said other ways of improving productivity must be found. In the City the news clipped 13.4 points off share prices and slowed the rise in the pound's value.

Consternation at coal board

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The credibility of the Government's income policy suffered a damaging blow at the hands of the miners yesterday. Unexpectedly, and by a large majority, they rejected a productivity scheme, and the National Union of Mineworkers is now committed to pursuing a huge claim in direct conflict with the wage guidelines.

In a pithead poll of about 80 per cent of the voted 110,634 to £7,901 not to allow local wage incentives into the pits. That represented a 552 per cent "No" to the wage measure designed to forestall a clash with the Government over wages.

After announcing the result, Mr Joseph Gormley, NUM president, said a claim for £135 a week at the coalface, not far short of double the present rate, would be pursued.

"I cannot sell 10 per cent, and I would not try to sell it," he insisted. "They do not need to come near with any offer of 10 per cent because it will not get the national executive's consideration."

The ballot result caused consternation at the National Coal Board, where officials had expected a marginal majority in favour of the scheme that promised rises of £23.50 a week for face workers who complete an agreed weekly output target.

The board is now expected to reply to the union's claim "sitting to achieve" big rises from yesterday's date. In direct breach of the TUC's 12-month rule.

Now that the productivity claim has been rejected, the union seems nothing in the way of a head-on collision over pay with the Government. The National Board met in emergency session last night to work out its next move, but the parallels with 1974-75 are ominous.

Then, the miners rejected a similar scheme and went on to repudiate the original social contract with a 90 per cent vote. That brought the Government's leading directly to the high wage inflation just be-



Mr Gormley in London yesterday.

fore phase one of the income policy.

But yesterday's rejection comes after two years of pay restraint, and in the militant areas the following call for rejection of pit incentives was linked to a demand that the basic rate claim should be pursued with vigour.

The breakdown of the vote shows that the big coalfields in Yorkshire, Scotland and South Wales were heavily against the deal, together with north Derbyshire, Kent and the Scottish coalfields.

The traditionally moderate areas of Nottinghamshire, Durham, Northumberland, Leicestershire and Lancashire, and the other craftsmen and white-collar workers were in favour, but not by a big enough margin.

The vote came after an intense propaganda struggle between the coal board, moderate members of the miners' executive, Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, and those leftwing coalfield leaders who told the men the way to higher pay lay through the conference claim rather than productivity payments.

The backwash of that claim will be felt next Thursday when the miners' executive meets. Mr Walter Malt, moderate leader

of the Durham coalfield, predicted "harsh words" about the campaign waged against the scheme in those areas that rejected it.

Political recriminations will not, however, mask the harsh reality of the situation. The miners are asking for pay basic rates of £135 at the face, £114 elsewhere underground and £92 on the surface, compared with £70.55, £56.70 and £49.50 respectively at present.

The coal board will reply to the claim in time for the November 10 executive meeting, but the miners can entertain scant hopes of an offer that exceeds the 10 per cent limit or the 12-month rule.

Our Political Reporter writes: Economic ministers, who expressed deep disappointment last night at the result of the ballot, are to meet today to discuss the effect on government policy.

They emphasized that there was no desperation and rejected any suggestion that the miners were on a collision course, but there is serious concern at the miners' decision.

Today's ministerial meeting is that of the economic strategy committee, which regularly meets to discuss pay claims in the light of the Government's 10 per cent guideline. Last night ministers, while conceding that the next move must be resolved by the coal board and the NUM, emphasized that there could be no departure from the Government's guidelines.

There were strong hints on the Conservative side that the party may now review its strategy towards the mining industry. Mr Tom King, a Tory energy spokesman, asked whether the party would consider demonization, replied that it would be a "difficult and disruptive operation in the short term."

He added that unless there was a satisfactory increase in productivity there would obviously be pressure to find some other system of running the industry.

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Power cuts affect all areas

By Robert Parker

Power cuts caused by industrial action worsened yesterday, according to the Electricity Council. They were the most extensive so far in the two weeks of the protest action, with many more people affected for longer periods than on previous days.

The Electricity Council said that not a town or city in England and Wales had not been partly affected during the day. Voltage reductions of at least 10 per cent had been operating all day throughout the country.

The council said that today's cuts would be worse than yesterday's and more consumers disconnected. Cuts would start from breakfast time and go on until the late evening.

Cuts started in the North of England at 8.45 am yesterday and a 3 per cent of consumers went without electricity for up to four hours. During the day the cuts spread south and grew until 10 per cent of the consumers in London and the South-East were cut off.

Cuts in London started during the rush hour. Traffic lights were put out of action—causing confusion on busy roads. Police directed traffic but long delays developed.

Generating boards were doing their best to rotate the cuts so that the same area was not cut too often. It is impossible to give advance warnings about where and when cuts will take place because of the nature of the action being taken by the members of the unions involved, the council said.

Most of the men operating at overtime last night and working as members of the General and Municipal Workers' Union, and others as members of the Transport and General Workers' Union, the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers and the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union.

Poison gas risk to families

Dangerous gas escaped from a chemical factory owned by ICI at Gillingham, Kent, yesterday. The gas was identified as hydrogen cyanide. It was released from a tank and spread over a large area. Police poured the area warning families to get ready to evacuate their homes. The factory produced cyanide

Mr Gormley blames 'hysterical' left

By Our Labour Editor

Mr Arthur Scargill, leftwing president of the Yorkshire coalfield, who campaigned for a "No" vote against the 13-11 recommendation of the union's largely moderate executive, hailed the outcome of the ballot as "a marvellous victory."

He said it was a clear mandate to go for the full claim, adopted by the union's conference, which moderates had hoped would take second place to a self-financing productivity scheme.

Sir Derek Ezra, chairman of the National Coal Board, said the union's decision had an underlining to the Government going back to 1974 to introduce an effective incentive scheme.

"Since this is not going to be possible at this stage on the lines proposed, we and the NUM have an obligation to find other ways to improve productivity. It is vital for the future of the industry that the present downward trend should be reversed."

Moral incentives have failed in the past, however, as has a "national" productivity scheme acceptable to the left. The un-

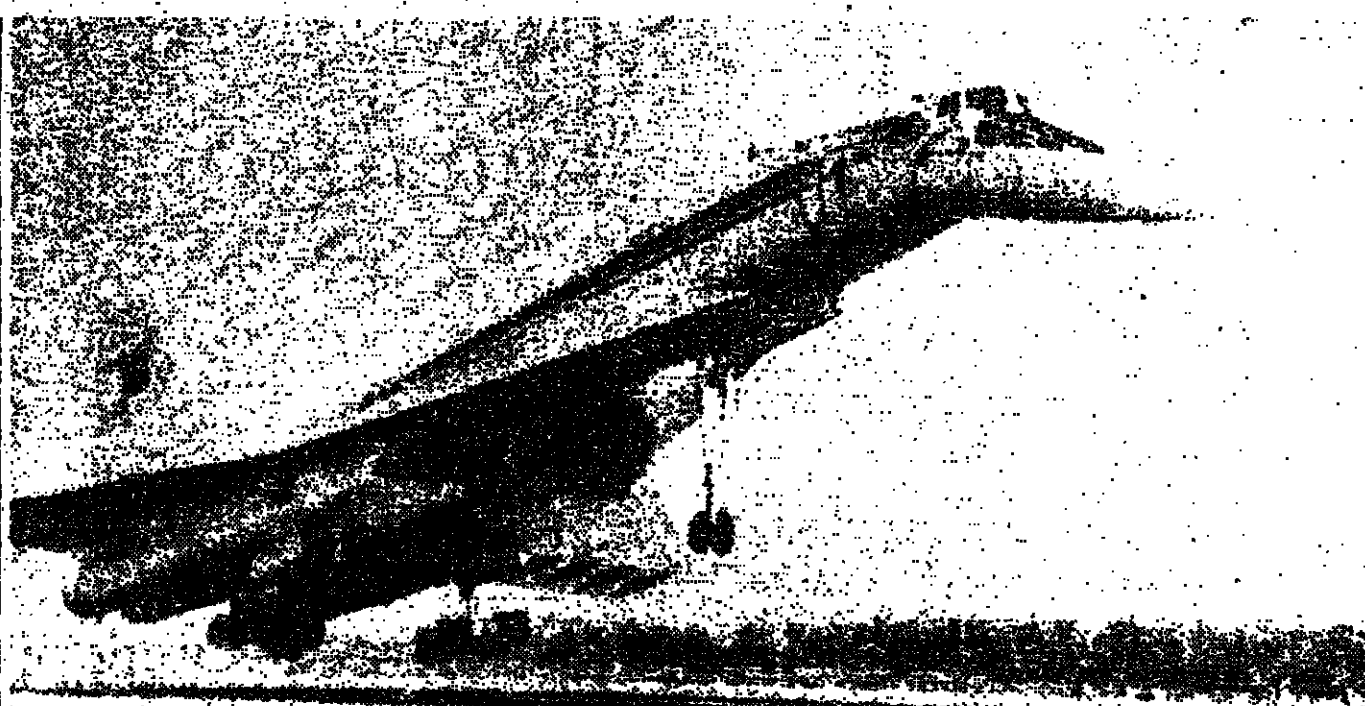
certain financial future of an industry failing to pay its way clearly worries some NUM leaders.

Mr Joseph Gormley, NUM president, said the union's efforts would now be directed towards getting the best possible deal on wages so as to encourage miners to meet the production targets laid down in the industry's tripartite Plan for Coal signed in 1974.

Mr Gormley admitted that he was disappointed at the rejection of the proposals and condemned the "hysterical and misleading propaganda" of the left. "But even accounting for that, with such a massive 'No' vote I think the members do not want production bonus schemes," he said. "They want the right wage for the job."

There need not be a confrontation, he argued. "I do not know why everybody should assume that there will be a clash between the Government and the union on pay. We have submitted our claim to the board and we shall determine our policy in the light of their reply."

Continued on page 2, col 3



The Soviet supersonic airliner TU144 lands at Alma Ata airport yesterday to inaugurate a passenger service on the 2,000-mile route from Moscow. Report, page 7.

Chancellor's reluctance to let pound rise denied

By Fred Emery
Political Editor

Mr Healey, a "reluctant" Chancellor in allowing the pound to rise, as Conservatives tried rubbing in yesterday? Far from it, to judge by expansive comment in government circles.

One authority held that the effective policy decision to let the pound float had been taken as long ago as October 17, with the formal decision arranged last Friday once market reaction to the economic measures had been assessed.

Another source held that once the Cabinet last Monday week decided not to modify exchange controls appreciation of the pound became inevitable, although that may not have been apparent to all members of the Cabinet.

It was generally insisted that last Friday there was no disagreement between Mr Healey, Mr Callaghan and Mr Lever, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, who were the ministers attending the final action meeting with Mr Gordon Richardson, Governor of the Bank of England.

They formally decided to change the bank's mode of intervention, beginning the next Monday.

What Mr Healey, who certainly seemed to affect some reluctance to let go of the pound during Commons questions last Wednesday on his economic package, really thought some two weeks ago is keeping to himself for the moment.

But some of his colleagues got two halves of what seems to have been the same impression. One was that the decision to let the pound go up would be implemented once the measures were presented; the other that once the measures were presented a decision would be taken.

The difference is quite clear, but there are grounds for believing that the Chancellor was reconciled to the pound's appreciation earlier than his statements to the Commons seemed to imply.

A Chancellor cannot tell "the absolute truth" about sterling, one informant countered, adding that the present 5 per cent appreciation in the pound's value was in line with "approximately... its present value", which Mr Healey had stated would be maintained last week. That seems more than a slight stretch.

Mr Healey's answer to Mr John Pardoe, his Liberal "shadow", had been that it was "the Government's policy to maintain the stability of the pound at approximately at its present level", but some of Mr Healey's colleagues argued that one should look elsewhere for the "fall back" hints.

Mr Healey, answering Mr David Howell, of the Conservative backbench, had said "potential conflict could arise between the exchange rate policy, interest rate policy and monetary policy."

Continued on page 2, col 7

Mr Carter rules against State Department and leaves ILO

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Nov 1

The United States will leave the International Labour Organization on Saturday. The two years' notice required by the ILO constitution was given in 1975 by President Ford and Dr Henry Kissinger, the then Secretary of State, and the Administration announced today that it would not revoke its decision to withdraw.

The announcement was made this afternoon by Mr Ray Marshall, Secretary of Labour. He said American efforts "to restore the ILO to its original principles" had failed. He offered four reasons for the decision.

1. The ILO applied unequal standards to its various members.

2. It made irresponsible charges against countries without proper evidence.

3. Extraneous political matters were injected frequently into labour questions.

4. Delegations from member countries were meant to consist of separate representatives of government, management and labour, but many countries did not produce independent labour or employer organizations.

The American withdrawal will cost the ILO \$20m (£11m) and will be a serious blow to the organization. The United States will still continue to contribute to the general funds of the

United Nations which subsidize the ILO.

Mr Marshall said the United States hoped it would be able to rejoin the ILO at some future date, when it had reformed itself. He admitted, however, that he had no idea of how long that would take.

The withdrawal has been urged vehemently upon the Government by Mr George Meany, president of the American Federation of Labour—Congress of Industrial Organizations. He is a rigid anti-communist and deplores having any contact at all with communist unions and governments.

Many other labour leaders disagree. Mr Douglas Fraser, president of the United Automobile Workers, for instance, told the President today he thought the country should stay in the ILO.

Mr Meany decided recently to continue in the presidency of the AFL-CIO, although he is 83, and Mr Carter has no wish to offend him.

The State Department had urged that America stay in the organization, on the ground that withdrawal would leave the communists in control.

The ILO, the only remaining agency of the defunct League of Nations, was created in 1919 to protect workers throughout the world against the hazards of industrialization, and was awarded the Nobel peace prize

on its fiftieth anniversary in 1969. It has been the main source of statistics on workers' hours, pay, safety and related matters and has set up technical training courses in Africa and Asia.

In 1974 it condemned Israel for alleged racism and a year later gave observer status to the Palestine Liberation Organization. As a result, the United States walked out and served notice in 1975 that it would withdraw in two years unless the agency reformed itself.

Our Geneva Correspondent writes: If not surprised by the American decision, many people in the ILO and other United Nations agencies here are deeply disappointed. They had been convinced that the Administration would stay in and strive to put things right, as it saw them.

The ILO had its contingency plan ready and has carried out an economy programme in the two years since President Ford's Government gave the statutory two years' notice of withdrawal, but the blow is a heavy one.

The worldwide staff numbers 2,800. Rather more than half of them at headquarters where up to 300 posts are now liable to be in jeopardy.

There are prospects, however, of at least some supplementary funding becoming available.

Leading article, page 17

Hunt for bugging devices in Ottawa Parliament

From Our Correspondent
Ottawa, Nov 1

Security staff at the Canadian House of Commons worked into the early hours today looking for hidden microphones in MPs' offices.

The search was ordered by the Speaker after Mr Elmer Mackay, a Conservative MP from Nova Scotia, told the House that a live bugging device had been found in his office.

Mr Mackay raised a question of privilege just before the House launched a special

debate on recent disclosures that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) security service carried out an illegal break-in in Montreal in 1973 to obtain information about the separatist Parti Québécois which is now the Quebec provincial Government.

The special debate lasted until nearly 3 am and was filled with Opposition allegations that the Liberal Government has to accept responsibility for excesses committed by the police.

In addition to the break-in, the RCMP is also suspected of having stolen some dynamite from a Montreal construction

company and setting fire to a barn in Montreal.

The barn apparently was burnt to prevent a meeting there in 1972 between members of the terrorist Front de libération du Québec (FLQ) and Black Panthers from the United States.

A Royal Commission was established some months ago to look into the operations of the RCMP, after it was disclosed that the security service carried out an illegal raid on the offices of a left-wing Montreal news agency, also in 1972.

Mr Mackay told the Commons that the microphone in his office was found by a

Besieged tenant unmoved by new plea

By Alan Hamilton

The house looked just as if the builders were in, with spidery scaffolding climbing to the roof and a plastic sheet draped over the third-storey bedroom windows of the yellow brick council block in Myddleton Passage, Islington, London.

Indeed, it should have been the builders, but Mr Stuart Brickell, a bachelor and self-employed accountant, aged 42, is so determined to keep them out that he has barricaded himself in his bedroom with barbed wire for pine days, living only on water and twenty-minute naps.

Mr William Brickell, a retired coal board worker from Folkestone, who adopted him from a Leeds orphanage when he was a child, arrived yesterday at the besieged flat with a vicar but left in half an hour after a seemingly fruitless conversation.

Armed with a machete, Mr Brickell chose to make his home a castle on Monday of last week, when Islington Council, with the help of bailiffs and police, tried to gain entry to carry out rewiring and plumbing work.

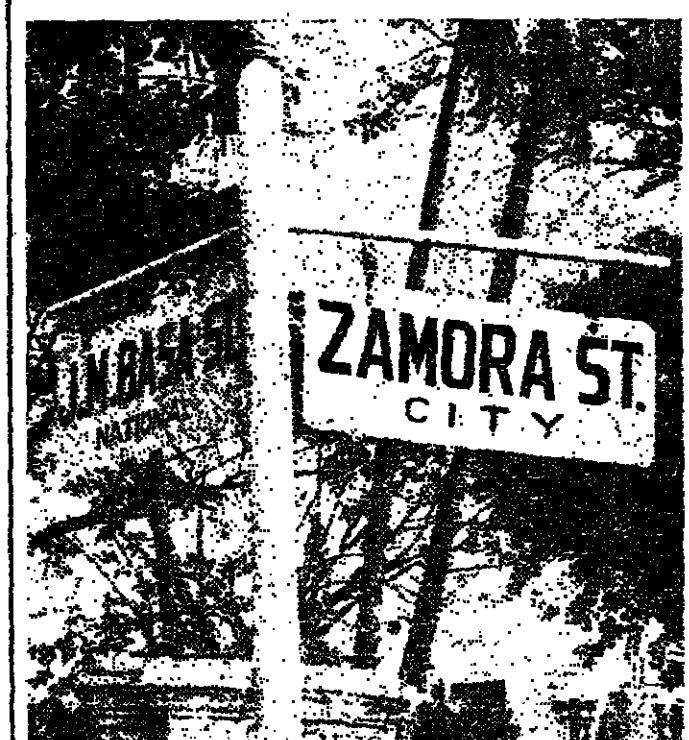
Mr Brickell, who in January had written to the council not only agreeing to the work but requesting in addition a refuse chute, soundproofing, extra cupboards, a £300 bond in case of damage, and a 56-day lodging allowance while he moved out of the workmen's way, had a dramatic change of mind.

Yesterday there was no sign of Mr Brickell giving himself up, or any sign of Mr Brickell. The plastic sheet covered his movements, and the noise from a window swung idly in the breeze, while inside police waited, listened, and according to reports, chatted occasionally to the occupant on rugby, football, chess and Napoleon.

A knot of bystanders peered over the shoulder of PC 167, manning the barricade single-handed, and apparently felt sorry for the unseen martyr.

One woman who had been there all morning remarked: "I do not blame him for not wanting the council in. You should see what they did when they took my bath out. I had to have new carpets. I had to have new curtains. I had to have new wallpaper. I had to have new floorboards. I had to have new skirting. I had to have new doors. I had to have new windows. I had to have new everything."

Mr Brickell, an official confessed that there had been complaints of bad workmanship in the council's programme of bringing older properties up to standard, but he said every effort had been made to help Mr Brickell.



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Foreign Office explains vetoes on S Africa

The Foreign Office said that Britain's vetoing on Monday of United Nations Security Council resolutions calling for action against South Africa was consistent with declared Western policy. The resolutions—which were also vetoed by the United States and France—had been tabled in March and the Western powers had already said they would vote against several of them. Moreover, they did not like the wording of the South African resolution, which said alleged "persistent military action" by South Africa as the main threat to peace, rather than internal repression.

Light on old play

The text of a famous comedy of antiquity, Menander's *Misoumenos*, has been rescued from oblivion by Professor Eric Turner. Professor of Paediatrics at University College London. His researches have clarified the play, which until 1963 was known only from quotations and four enigmatic scraps of papyrus.

Close AUEW poll

Mr Terence Duffy, Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers executive member for the Midlands and chosen candidate of the union's moderate wing, came first of 10 contenders in a ballot for the presidency. Second was Mr Robert Wright, the leading leftwing challenger.

Chrysler threat

Chrysler's managing director Mr George Lacy and his deputy were called to the Department of Industry for talks as Government fears grew that another financial crisis was threatening the car firm. Chrysler lost £19m in the first nine months of this year, against a profit forecast for 1977 of £300,000.

Prison changes

Changes have been made in the running of the special unit at Brixton prison, Glasgow. They come after allegations that the inmates were able to have sexual intercourse in their cells and obtain drink and drugs.

Jubilee travels end

The Queen is due to fly home from Barbados in Concorde today, ending the silver jubilee tours which have taken her 56,000 miles through 13 countries. There is much satisfaction among the royal party about the way the tours have gone.

Protest over CIA man

Senator Frank Church, who was chairman of a Senate investigation into the Central Intelligence Agency, expressed dismay at the news that Mr Richard Helms, former Director of the CIA, probably will not go to jail for lying to the Senate.

Youth unemployment: The Manpower Services Commission faces a dispute with pressure groups over the Government's youth unemployment programme.

Radiation hazards: A call was made at the Windscale Inquiry for a reorganised system of scrutinising radiation.

Ipswich: A two-page Special Report on the county town of Suffolk.

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HOME NEWS

Close first ballot for presidency of engineering union leaves fine line between left and right

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Reporter

The succession to Mr Hugh Scanlon as president of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers was finely balanced between right and left yesterday after a first ballot in which only 356 votes separated the two main contenders.

Mr Terence Duffy, the union's executive member for the Midlands and chosen candidate of the moderate wing topped the poll over nine other candidates with 87,539 votes.

In a second ballot, in March, he will face the leading left-wing challenger, Mr Robert Wright, one of the union's two assistant general secretaries, who came second, with 83,603 votes.

Both candidates regarded the result in a relatively low poll of 7.3 per cent, under the union's postal system, as encouraging for their chances in the second ballot.

A factor that will certainly help to swing the balance will be the course adopted by those who voted for Mr Roy Fraser, the Leyland toolmakers who led the Leyland toolmakers' strike earlier this year.

Mr Fraser was the most successful of the candidates who are now eliminated, coming third with 19,071 votes. Many of the Leyland toolmakers and many other skilled workers who voted for Mr Fraser remain an unpredictable factor.

Mr Fraser's supporters at Leyland are usually regarded as crossing the normal political boundaries within the union, although the left wing is likely to vote for him strongly.

Most supporters of Mr Ian Morris, who had Socialist Workers' Party backing and won 9,997 votes and Mr Alan Wilkins, who also had far left support and won 12,137 votes, can be expected to vote for Mr Wright.

The union's right wing can draw encouragement from the fact that in one of two elections for a national organizer post Mr John Byrne, a moderate candidate, decisively beat the militant Mr Ronald Halverson by 142,647 votes to 52,383. The other election at that grade goes to a second ballot.

A second ballot will also be held for the executive post held by Mr Leslie Dixon, the executive's only communist member, who recorded 15,444 votes in the first poll. Mr Edmund Scriven, his challenger, topped the poll with 16,694 votes.

In the other executive election, for the seat held by Mr L. F. Edmondson, who is retiring, Mr Harold Robinson was elected on the first ballot with 15,737 votes over Mr James Murray, who polled 12,942.

Comics and obscene books shown

After hearing that a bookshop in York, Somerset, had displayed obscene magazines of the same shelf as children's comics, Judge Best said at Taunton Crown Court yesterday: "I feel pity for people who need to buy these magazines, but I have nothing but contempt for people who sell them for gain. I have looked through these books and magazines with utter disgust. They must portray every kind of sexual perversion known to man."

The court was told that more than 400 books and many more magazines were seized by the police in December, 1975, from a shop in Middle Street, Yeovil, run by Barry Books Ltd, a Plymouth-based company. It has gone into liquidation.

The company, which pleaded guilty through its liquidator to 14 charges of selling obscene material for gain, was fined a total of £700, as was Mr Ronald Carter, manager of the Yeovil shop, who admitted 14 similar charges.

Hot-dog trader fined

Marlborough Street magistrates yesterday ordered the immediate closure of a multi-tenanted premises in Soho, London, used by an unlicensed street-vending trader, Elmer Sheffield, of Covent Garden, who was fined £300 with £25 costs for six hygiene offences.

Tories want intensive care on health service

A period of "intensive care" for the National Health Service is recommended in a two-stage Conservative plan outlined yesterday by Dr Gerard Vaughan, Tory spokesman on health.

The first stage would be a period of co-ordinating the service, in which morale was depressed, he said. He emphasized that radical changes, such as charging patients, would be reserved for the second phase of the scheme.

Speaking at a London Conference of the Institute of Practitioners in Work Study, Organization and Methods, Dr Vaughan said that only later might there be "a general body of feeling that would want to alter the basis of the system altogether."

The patient was so sick, he said, that major changes could not be made until the system was in a state where the Tories would simplify the administration.

making the service more patient-oriented, making clear that while the state provided the resources, it would leave the professionals to get on with the job.

The NHS would again become a local service, with local nurses, doctors, porters and technicians able to make decisions to avoid the present "quagmire" of meaningless duplication.

The private sector would be encouraged. The Conservatives believe there was no conflict between the private sector and the NHS, "and that every penny spent privately is a penny saved that can be spent in other ways within the NHS."

In a second two, if the Royal Commission on the National Health Service was in favour, the Tories would have no objection to moving towards a system of total insurance cover. Changes, too, in the taxation system, with a special health tax, earmarked for the NHS, and further tax concessions on health insurance premiums.

Remand on kidnap charge

Jürgen Petersen, aged 26, a German telecommunications engineer, was remanded in custody for a week in London yesterday on an extradition warrant alleging that he had unlawfully detained Felix Wessel, a boy of four, in Hamburg

between October 16 and 24. The remand is to give the West German Government time to prepare extradition proceedings. Inspector Peter Reichard, of the West German police, was in court. Mr Petersen said he wanted to see a lawyer.

'A friend of France' buys furniture and objets d'art valued at \$5m

Sale of Wildenstein collection is called off

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

The sale of the Wildenstein collection of furniture and works of art, billed by Sotheby's as the most important dispersal of French furniture since the Hamilton Palace sale of 1882, is not to take place. A single, unnamed purchaser has been found for the entire collection, valued at about \$5m.

Sotheby's yesterday announced: "In order to preserve intact this marvellous collection

of French furniture and objets d'art of the eighteenth century, an art lover and connoisseur, and a great friend of France, has become the new owner."

Mr Peter Wilson, chairman of Sotheby's, said the furniture would probably stay in France. In fact, it has only just got there. Although the great Wildenstein dynasty of art dealers built their empire in Paris, most of the furniture came from their East 64th Street home in New York, with some additions from London and Geneva. "About three-quarters is already in Nice"

Mr Wilson said, "and the rest is probably in the air." The sale was due to take place in Monte Carlo on December 10 and 11.

Mr Wilson said the cancellation was a sudden development and since it was "at the request of the vendors", according to Sotheby's statement, the deal appears to have been arranged by Wildenstein's rather than Sotheby's.

Mr Wilson commented that Sotheby's had never dealt with the purchaser. He declined to discuss Sotheby's financial position in the light of the deal, but presumably they will not suffer.

The identity of the buyer had the art market guessing yesterday. The sale was to contain some 200 lots of superb French furniture, objets d'art, carpets and tapestries. There are few people who can accommodate so bulky an acquisition, let alone find the \$5m or more to pay for it. Mr Wilson confirmed that the buyer was not a museum. Sotheby's promised that "further information regarding the matter will be available in due course."

Other sale room news, page 19

Mr Mulley calls for early report on Ulster troops' accommodation

Mr Mulley, Secretary of State for Defence, has called for an urgent report on soldiers' accommodation in Northern Ireland after allegations that some troops are living in poor conditions.

Mr Airey Neave, Conservative spokesman on Northern Ireland, who was a prisoner of war in the Second World War, said recently that the living quarters of some soldiers in Ulster were worse than in a prison camp.

Colonel Malcolm Cubitt, who is in charge of Army accommodation in Northern Ireland, said yesterday that there was substantial accommodation and that some of the men were living in badly overcrowded conditions. Six or seven bases housing between 500 and 600 men were well below par, but conditions were being improved all the time.

Last year £875,000 was spent on making the soldiers' conditions more acceptable while they were on duty in the province. Nine substandard bases, most of them converted

buildings in Belfast, had been abandoned this year.

The worst conditions were in the south Armagh border zone, in south Londonderry and in Belfast's market district. In the last area, 50 soldiers are housed in a crumbling Methodist mission hall and a converted public house. Thirty sleep in the draughty mission hall, and in the public house the men sleep in triple-deck bunks, 12 to a room measuring 15ft by 12ft.

Colonel Cubitt said that in south Armagh the buildings used by the troops were in exactly the right place and there was no ground available for expansion.

He compared life at the Crossmaglen base to life in a submarine. "We got mortared there last year and as a result built a bunker and the space there is not as much as we would like. It is cramped but safe." The men in the base had not come under mortar attack for the past year and new arrivals sometimes wondered what all the fuss was about.

Showrooms damaged: A bomb exploded in a furniture store in the New Lodge area of Belfast yesterday and caused a fire which swept through the premises.

Three men carried out the attack. One waited in a car while two others entered the shop with a gun and a parcel containing the bomb.

A second bomb later exploded in a garage a short distance away. No one was hurt.

Attempted murder charge: Patrick Francis Gallagher, a plant hire contractor, of Verbera Avenue, Dublin, and Mrs Ann Burns, of Evans Crescent, Howth, appeared in court in Dublin yesterday, charged with attempting to murder Garda Kiernan Mulvihill, a 20-year-old garda, on November 13 (a Staff Reporter writes). They were remanded on bail until November 27.

Mr Gallagher is a brother of Eddie Gallagher, who is serving a 20-year sentence for the 1975 kidnapping of Dr. Tiede Herrema, a Dutch industrialist.



Ulster commander: Major-General Timothy Cressy, 54, arrived in Ulster yesterday to take over as GOC and Director of Military Operations Northern Ireland in the rank of Lieutenant-General. He succeeds Lieutenant-General Sir David House, who is retiring to become Black Rod in the House of Lords. General Cressy, an experienced counter-insurgency soldier, served in Aden, Kenya and Oman between 1972 and 1975. He commanded the Sultan's armed forces against communist rebels. He has been Director of Infantry since June, 1975.

Accused man tells how girl bank clerk was shot

Michael Hart told the Central Criminal Court yesterday about the last moments in the life of Angela Woolcock, a bank clerk, at Haver, Richmond-upon-Thames.

He said that, heavily disguised, he approached the girl's counter at Barclays bank armed with a sawn-off shotgun. "As I approached the till I uncovered the muzzle of the gun," he said. "I levelled it at the counter," he said.

"She appeared to bend down to her right and completely out of my view. It seemed a long time. I do not know how long, but I got nervous. I was trembling and kept looking over my shoulder towards the door where I had come in."

"Although I could not see the girl I could hear the sound of paper rustling. I became impatient and thrust the gun forward at the glass partition. I intended to say 'Furry up' but you translate that into 'After the first syllable the gun went off.'"

Mr Hart, aged 38, formerly of St Peter's Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire, has pleaded not guilty to the murder of Miss Woolcock, aged 20, but guilty to manslaughter, on November 10 last year. The prosecution has not accepted his plea.

Mr Hart said his doctor advised him to give up manual work because of an "injured back." "The worried me because it was my livelihood gone."

From the end of August I started committing a number of criminal offences."

He was awaiting trial on bail on the day he set out to rob the bank. That morning he went to Basingstoke police station to report, and then bought some rain make-up.

Clash likely over plan for jobless youth

By Our Labour Staff

The Manpower Services Commission faces a clash with local authorities and pressure groups after deciding to reject demands for more local control of the Government's youth unemployment programme.

A confidential letter from Mr Richard O'Brien, chairman of the commission, to Mr Booth, Secretary of State for Employment, discloses that it has decided against representations made to it by a majority of 400 bodies whom it consulted on the programme.

The commission proposes to run the scheme, intended to start in September, 1978, through 28 area boards, which will include two representatives each from the unions, employers and local authorities.

The letter accepts that many local authorities had urged many more, smaller, area boards to allow more community participation in schemes for the unemployed.

However, it comments that such proposals would have led to too fragmented a system and the extra administrative costs could have been too heavy.

That view is certain to be challenged by youth leaders and some professionals in careers and employment who say a rigid, more centralized system would be costlier and more, not less, bureaucratic.

Their opinion was voiced yesterday by leaders of Youth's Aid, the most broadly based and influential of pressure groups on youth unemployment, in a meeting with Mr Gidding, Under-Secretary of State for Employment.

The group, which includes MPs, expressed suspicions that the Government intended to choose the area board system and told the minister that there would also be dismay if there was no provision for unemployed young people themselves to be represented on the scheme. The commission's letter mentions no such provision.

Their annoyance has been increased by reports that 700 extra civil servants, employed by the commission, will be needed to service the boards and administer the government unemployment programme.

The programme plans to provide a job or a place on a government training programme by Easter, 1979, for everyone who has left school in September, 1978.

Mr Christopher Brinkley, director of Youthaid, said the scheme would involve "giant offices covering large areas of the country, supervised by 700 civil servants with no experience of teaching or working with young people."

Continued from page 1

"If it arises I shall take appropriate action. But I should be foolish in the extreme if I were to give any indication of what I regarded as appropriate policy."

Then, in answering Bryan Gould, a Labour opponent of the policy of allowing appreciation of the pound, Mr Healey slipped in that one of the lessons learnt by all finance ministers was that "there are fairly strict limits within which it is possible to withstand market pressures."

The past month's inflows of foreign funds had again impressed the Chancellor, it is said, in the week before presentation of his economic measures.

Yet to have announced in advance that the pound would be allowed to appreciate would have distracted from the presentation of the tax-cut package.

"Ingredients for disaster": Mr James Prior, MP for Lowestoft and opposition spokesman on Employment, said in Exeter last night that the Government was basing in the hopes of new-found prosperity from oil.

The hidden and dramatic improvement of the pound illustrated the terrifying dangers into which a nation with a strong currency but a weak industrial base could fall.

Reasons for floating, page 21

80% back earnings limit but want police exempted

Four fifths of the population think workers should support the Government's 10 per cent earnings limit but believe that policemen should be exempted, an opinion poll published yesterday shows.

According to a survey by the Opinion Research Centre last weekend among 1,011 people, only 23 per cent think the miners should be given the same exemption. The survey also shows that 51 per cent believe union leaders who ask for a rise of more than 10 per cent are behaving selfishly.

The poll asked people whether they thought employers who give in to pay

demands above 10 per cent should be allowed to pass the extra cost on to the public. Seventy-one per cent said "no."

The survey asked: "The Government has promised to cut personal taxation in the next Budget if average pay increases are kept to 10 per cent or less. Which of the following would you personally prefer?" It offered two choices.

Seventy-four per cent said they would prefer a wage rise of under 10 per cent, with a cut in personal taxation in the spring. Eighteen per cent chose a pay rise above 10 per cent, but no taxation cuts.

Kent men want to see radical changes as well as 'the wage for the job'

From Geoffrey Browning
Deal

There is no future for incentive bonus schemes for miners, Mr Gerry Harrison, National Union of Mineworkers' branch secretary for the Botesanger colliery near Sandwich, Kent, said yesterday, after hearing the result of the miners' ballot.

Miners must now get the wage for the job, he said. "There is a good majority against the coal board's scheme, and it will not create any incentive arguments."

He said that many of the 1,300 miners at the colliery were pleased at the result and wanted to see a radical reorganisation of the industry.

Mr Michael Hanley, aged 37, of Deal, carries out safety and installation work at the pit face, working in water. Married with four children, he takes home £60 a week for working five days a week. That includes about an hour a day overtime, and a special working allowance.

"I am not surprised at the result, as we do not want to go back working a piece rate system," he said. "We want a realistic wage for the sort of job we are doing."

Despite working in filthy conditions, he says he does not mind the job. "The people who work with me are more social and helpful than in any other industry."

If his wife did not work he would be in danger of being married on his present wage. About a tenth of the miners at his pit live in coal board houses and pay about £5 a week rent. The board is offering the houses for sale to tenants.

In common with all miners, Mr Hanley is entitled to 15cwt of free coal every 28 days if it is needed.

Mr Joseph Burke, aged 63, has been a miner for 50 years, and spent all his working life at the colliery until an accident two years ago. Working on the surface, he takes home about £35 a week.

He says that the union and the coal board attempted to foist the incentive scheme on to miners without proper consultation. "They are attempting to shove something down our throats when we do not fully know what it involves."

When he retires, early next July, he says he will receive a lump sum of £500. When he is 65 his pension will be £6.24 a week.

Ronald Faux reports from Kirkcaldy: As far as underground workers allow themselves to be lulled, the battle at Seaford colliery in Fife yesterday was the result of the ballot for the union's proposal to reject the productivity scheme.

On some faces a grin broke through the coal dust. But most were lined with a shrug. It had been inevitable and reflected the 82 per cent vote in Scottish collieries for rejecting the productivity scheme.

Mr John Galloway, a young miner, said: "It was bad scheme as far as we could understand it, although to one actually spent on the details. The £23 would have applied to only one man in five, so with deduction the average was about £4 a week."

For most men, we could have done better under phase two."

Another miner said: "It would have set man against man and pit against pit. It would have been back to the old days. Mick McGahey is right, carrots are for donkeys."

The Seaford workers are sensitive about rewards. Their colliery, which employs 1,900, is among the biggest and most modern in Scotland. But it is also among the most difficult to work in Britain. The coal seams run four miles below the Firth of Forth and are steeply angled.

"You earn your money here. To get out the same amount of coal takes a lot more effort. How do you translate that into productivity?" another miner asked.

Other workers expected that the union, the coal board and the Government would find an alternative scheme. "There was not a foregone conclusion that there would be a clash between the miners and the Government. The last time that happened was surely a warning back. 'The worried me because it was my livelihood gone.'"

A National Union of Mineworkers' official at the pit doubted the motives of some union officials. "They want a fight and they do not care who it is with. A Labour government or Margaret Thatcher. They want to bring down the Government, Joe Gormley and all."

Strike stops ferry sailing

The British Rail car ferry Earl Godwin missed its second sailing from Portsmouth last night because of a strike by the crew. It was the Channel Islands third day without a ferry from Britain. Crews on other boats have joined the dispute.

Mr Peter Parker, chairman of British Rail, said: "We have £5m invested in this venture. I am confident the matter will be settled soon."

Order against badgers

The Ministry of Agriculture has made a special order for the continued gassing of West Country badger sets where tuberculosis is found.

Chancellor's hint of 'market pressures'

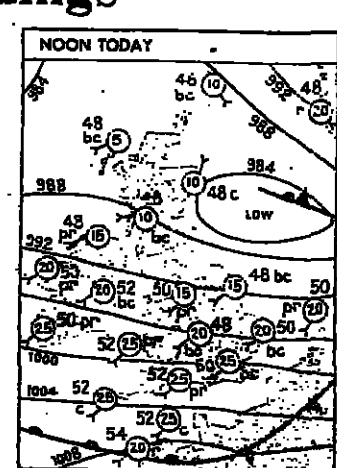
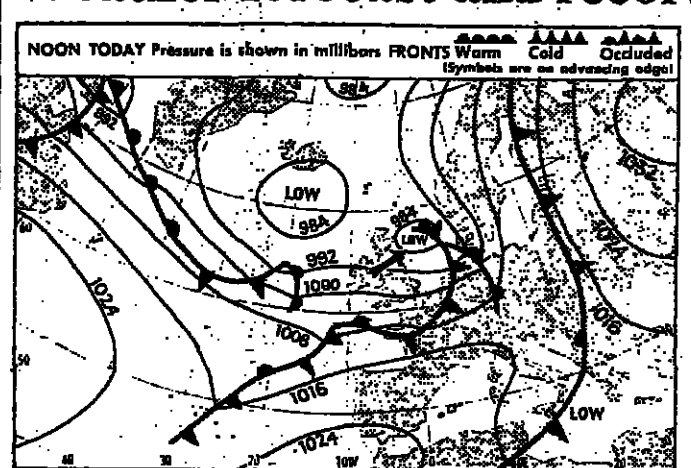
Continued from page 1

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The past month's inflows of foreign funds had again impressed the Chancellor, it is

Weather forecast and recordings



There's something new in the air at 22 Park Lane.

You can now hold your next business conference in the Roof! Way up in the clouds, 300ft above Park Lane. Where you'll find a relaxed atmosphere. Peace and quiet. And air that's clear and fresh. In fact, only the magnificent views of the London skyline remind you that you're still in the heart of the city.

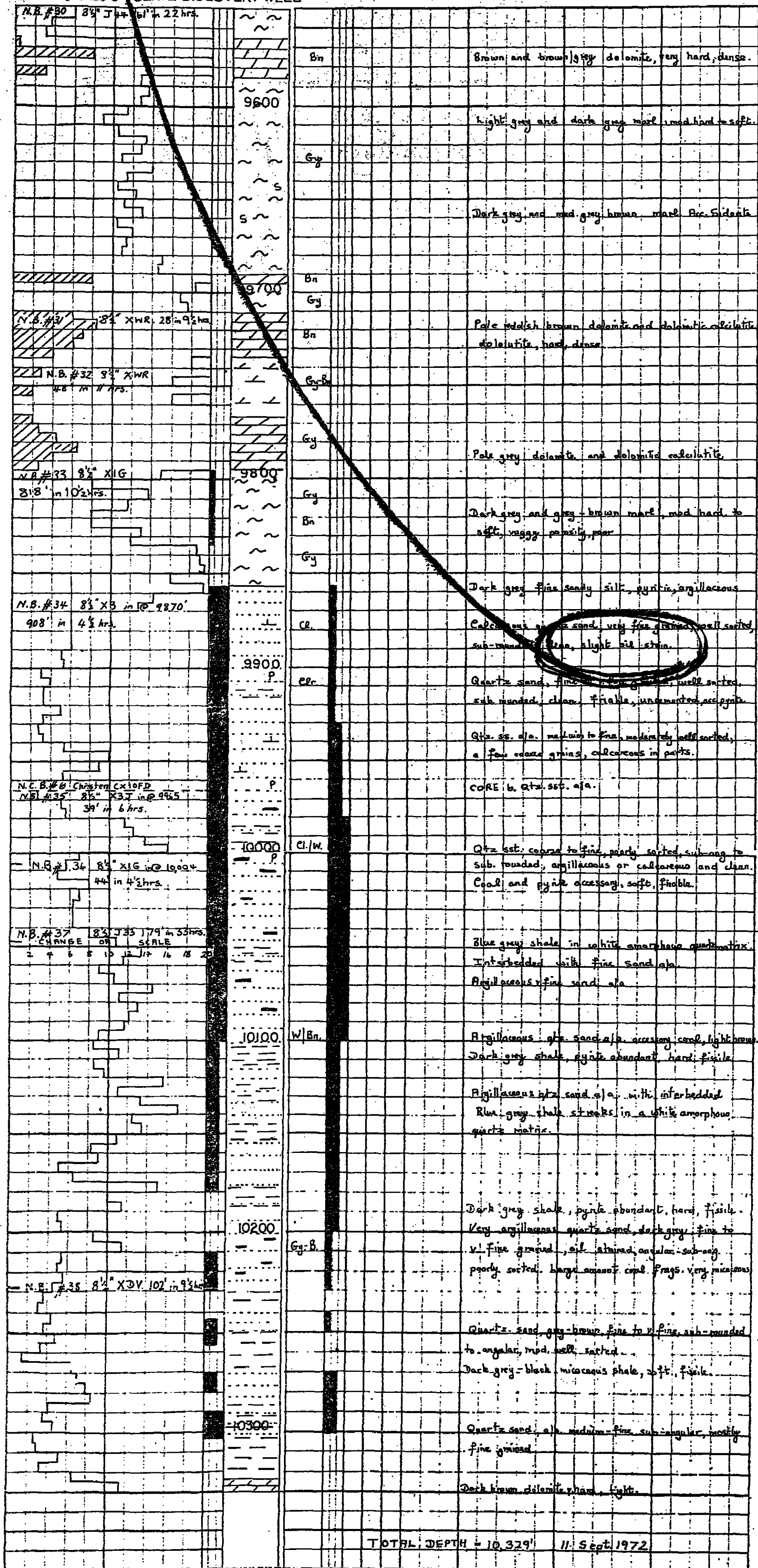
Obviously the food is superb. And you'll discover facilities that can meet your requirements, however specialised they may be. If you want to know more, just ring our Banquet Manager on 01-493 9751.

The Roof at the London Hilton.

John 100 250

* "Almost five years ago to the day, Beryl 'showed.'"

GEOLOGIC LOG BERYL DISCOVERY WELL



One might imagine the jubilation of a drilling crew, at the moment a North Sea field like Beryl is discovered, as that of the winning side in the Cup Final.

It's not that way at all, actually. The first show of oil from any well — like that which appeared at 9,850 feet in the Beryl field log for September 1972 (opposite) — is simply one of the many expensive answers needed to confirm the presence of oil in commercial quantities.

The initial indication that there is *any* at all appears in rock chips carried by the complex liquid mixture known as 'drilling mud', as it returns to the surface after having been pumped down the hollow drill pipe to cool and lubricate the drilling bit and flush out the cuttings. Once the presence of oil has been confirmed, the task of finding out how much — and how best to recover it — falls to reservoir engineers like Mobil's Rick Redmore.

"Reservoir engineering is largely an art", he says. "Our job is to get information about something you can't see — an oil-bearing rock formation as deep as two miles below the sea bed".

The only access Redmore and his associates have to their subject — in Beryl's case, an area equal to that of Central London — are the wells themselves. These are holes only a foot in diameter.

Their work employs an array of instruments which can be lowered down the wellbore to investigate the well electronically. This, in turn, helps determine where to drill other wells in order to drain the field of its recoverable oil.

Changes in reservoir pressure during initial well tests are also an important clue to the amount of oil present. As Rick Redmore explains, "if you let a relatively small amount of air escape from a Mini tyre, there is a sharp drop in pressure. If you do it to a big truck tyre, the pressure drops very little, because of the large quantity of air in the tyre. Different sized oil reservoirs behave like different sized tyres".

The initial, or *exploration*, wells in any block — like the Beryl field — are drilled from floating rigs leased by the licence holders. It costs around £30,000 a day, depending on demand, to rent and operate a rig. Wildcat wells can take 90-120 days to drill.

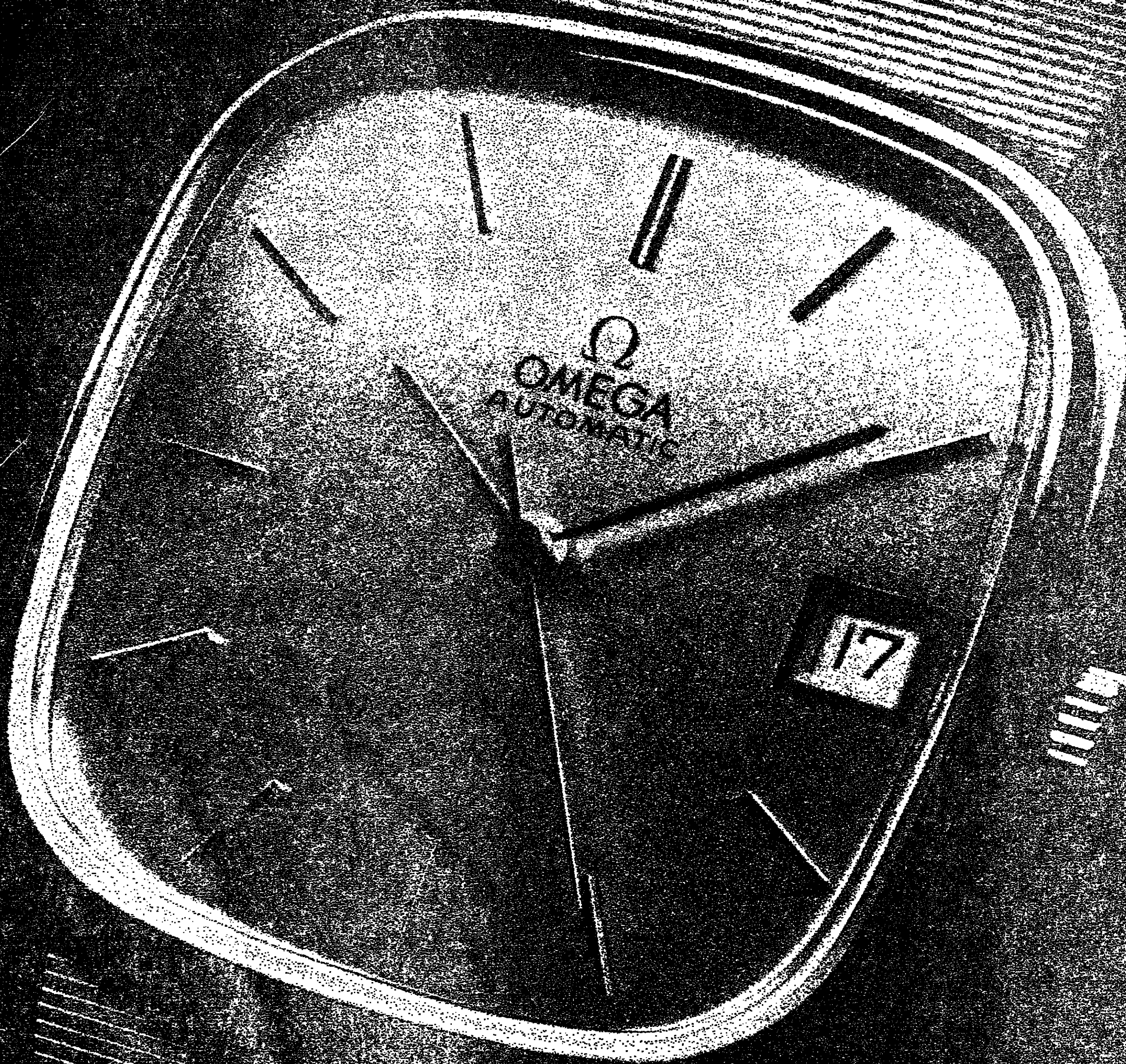
In the high stakes game of North Sea oil, the critical decision to shift a newly-found reservoir from exploration to production status by committing to the huge cost of facilities like the Beryl complex — from which the *producing* wells will be drilled and the field managed — depends in large measure on the scientific artistry of reservoir engineers like Rick Redmore.

In his judgement, Beryl should support the economic risk on the basis of an estimated 400 million barrel reserve of recoverable oil, a peak production rate of some 90,000 barrels a day, and a producing life extending over some 25 years.

Mobil

مکمل ۱۵۸

Ω
OMEGA
Life, time.



The man with red hair took three cards.

Sullivan stood pat. The rich kid from Detroit took one and swore. I, praying, took one.
Hallelujah! Jack of diamonds.

The betting went round a couple of times. Red hair folded. I peeked nervously at my flush, sweated a little, then unstrapped my gold Omega and slid it into the pile of money. "Call that twelve hundred bucks, and I'm being generous," I said.

Sullivan started to lay down his cards, grinning.
I felt something rotten happen inside my stomach.

HOME NEWS



New entries to the Women's Royal Naval Service during the First World War, from "The WRNS 1917-1977" exhibition opening tomorrow at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich.

Solicitors defended over long trials

Lord Widgery, the Lord Chief Justice, was criticized yesterday for stating, as reported in *The Times* yesterday, that trials were getting "unhealthily longer" and the taxpayer, through legal aid, was footing the bill.

Mr Jeffrey Gordon, information officer of the British Legal Association said: "Lawyers today are in the absurd position that one week we are attacked because trials are too long, and the next bold that by encouraging defendants to plead guilty we are cutting fair trials too short."

"To suggest that solicitors have any vested interest in long trials must be nonsense when it is realized that our fees for attending a trial, at the rate of £12 to £15 a day are obviously not enough to pay a living wage to our staff."

"Solicitors attending long trials must make a loss with fees that level. When Lord Widgery advocates more stringent financial control of criminal trials he apparently has not taken into account how savage the Old Bailey [Central Criminal Court] can be and is in cutting down solicitors' bills for preparatory work."

Practising solicitors were getting tired of "the cumulative effect of conflicting and often ill-informed criticisms of our profession."

Call by solicitor: The public should be protected from "sland'ers" solicitors, Mr Geoffrey Hough, a London solicitor, says. "There is a need to ensure that solicitors work is done properly, and conscientiously with a view to serving the client rather than, as appearances would sometimes suggest, with a view to their own benefit," he says in evidence submitted to the Royal Commission on Legal Services.

Mr Hough points out that a client can do little about inefficiency by a solicitor.

Book charges remand

John Henson, aged 36, a Canadian charged with fixed address, facing six charges of stealing five antique books and a painting, valued together at £2,180, from London branches of Sotheby's and Christie's, the auctioneers, was remanded in custody until November 8 at Marlborough Street Magistrates' Court, London, yesterday.

Need to improve quality of life for people over 80

From Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent
Harrrogate

Great progress has been made in improving the quality of life for people in their sixties, seventies and early eighties, Professor Margaret Jefferys, Professor of Sociology at Bedford College University, London, said at Harrogate yesterday. She told the 300 delegates to the Age Concern conference that the main challenge now would involve concerted efforts by scientists, practitioners, relatives and the elderly to achieve the same results for people surviving into their late eighties and beyond.

The growing number of elderly people who married

Closures of meat and bacon factories feared

By a Staff Reporter

A promise by Mr Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Food, yesterday to press energetically for change in the way EEC monetary compensatory amounts are calculated gave no apparent comfort to representatives of the British bacon and meat industry.

After the speech their chairman, Mr L. M. Newton-Clarke, was still predicting, in press interviews, inevitable factory closures "on a fairly large scale and fairly rapidly" if the present situation continues.

The monetary compensatory amount (MCA) is the difference between the market rate and the agricultural "green" currency of the EEC. It provides a form of assistance to producers and consumers.

Mr Silkin acknowledged the difficulties facing the meat industry in the face of unfair competitive conditions in the bacon and ham market and the availability of adequate supplies of manufacturing beef.

The world situation for pig producers was improving, he said. Pig prices were rising and

Postal vote on students' right to speak

Members of Congregation, Oxford University's parliament, have narrowly voted in favour of allowing students to speak at its meetings but a final decision awaits the result of a postal vote in about three weeks.

The decision to call a postal vote was announced at the beginning of yesterday's debate by Sir Rex Richards, FRS, the vice-chancellor.

Mr J. B. Bamforth, Principal of Lincoln College, proposed a resolution giving speakers rights, any junior member for an experimental period of two years. It was carried by 15 votes to 13.

Opposing it, Mr C. Smith, fellow of Keble College, said students could misuse the right for demonstrations and filibustering. It would be unfair to give them speaking rights when some teaching staff were not allowed to attend meetings. But Mr J. C. B. Goring, a senior proctor, said students were very much affected by Congregation decisions, yet they had little control over them.

Ban and £700 fines on corporal

From Our Correspondent
York

Corporal John Oliver, aged 25, of Carrick Garrison, North Yorkshire, pleaded guilty at Richmond Magistrates' Court, North Yorkshire, yesterday, to assault; taking a Chief Constable without the owner's consent; driving it dangerously; damaging a hangar door, road signs valued at £150; damaging army fencing; driving without a licence or insurance; and driving with a blood alcohol level more than three times above the permitted limit.

He was disqualified from driving for three years, fined a total of £700 and ordered to pay for the damage to the road signs and a doctor's fee. He was ordered to pay the £889.80 cost of the case.

Sergeant Albert Hartley, for the prosecution, said the Chief Constable was pursued by several members of the military and civilian police at first in vehicles and then, for their own safety, on foot.

"It is a wonder there was not serious injury or even loss of life," Colonel Jonathan Forbes, formerly of The Green Howards, the chairman, said.

Immigrants' council says appeal barred its adviser

By Penny Symon

The Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants has complained to the Immigration Appeals Secretariat about the rejection of one of its staff by an appeals adjudicator on Monday.

The council alleges that the incident was connected with criticism of adjudicators, which it published on Saturday.

In its annual report the council said that in 1976 and this year it had drawn attention to politically and racially prejudiced remarks by adjudicators. The report included examples and said there had been pressure by some Labour MPs for certain adjudicators to be dismissed.

Mr Ian Martin, general secretary of the council, said yesterday that under the rules governing appeals a member of the council had been allowed to appear for the appellant. That had been done in hundreds of cases since the system was established in 1976.

"Strictly speaking, the adjudicator must give leave for a

council representative to appear, as an advocate, but there has never been any difficulty in the past," Mr Martin added.

"We have never been asked to apply for leave, that is, until Monday."

Mr Sarwat Iqbal, a council employee who was due to appear at an appeal on Monday, was told by one of the adjudicators, that he must apply for leave to represent the appellant.

Mr Iqbal said yesterday: "I told him that I had appeared in hundreds of cases, many of them before him, and I had never been asked to apply for leave to appear before. The adjudicator added that if I did apply for leave he would not grant it. It was impossible for me to proceed with the case."

Mr Martin commented: "It seems very curious that suddenly, just after our annual report was published criticising the appeals system, one of our employees was treated in this way." He said he had written to Mr J. D. Peterkin, the chief adjudicator.

Damages for US film couple

Mr Robert Wagner, the American actor, and his wife, Miss Natalie Wood, the actress, accepted undisclosed damages in the High Court yesterday after a newspaper report which suggested that their remarriage had broken down and they were getting divorced again.

Their actions were against Continental Publishers & Distributors Ltd, and New York Library Ltd, English distributors of the French newspaper, *France Dimanche*.

Correction

A report on Saturday stated that the Stubbs paintings, "The Haymakers" and "The Reapers" had been sold abroad and were subject to a temporary export restriction. They were in fact offered to the Tate Gallery in the first place.

Former drug addict to get his son back

A London couple who devoted themselves for two years as foster-parents to a baby boy suffering from withdrawal symptoms after his birth to drug-addicted parents have lost their plea in the Court of Appeal to get the child back from his natural father.

But now a ward of court and still under three years old, Lord Justice Ormrod said. Contrary to everyone's expectations, the father had recovered from his drug addiction and wanted to bring up his son.

The court upheld a decision of Sir George Baker, President of the Family Division, that the boy should stay with his father, with whom he has lived since last July.

WEST EUROPE

Paris police ban demonstrations by terrorist sympathizers at lawyer's extradition hearing

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Nov 1

Demonstrations in support of the Baader-Meinhof defence lawyer Herr Klaus Croissant have been forbidden by police when his extradition hearing opens here tomorrow. Several extreme left-wing organizations have announced their intention of demonstrating then, as they did at the extradition hearing a week ago.

Herr Croissant is wanted in West Germany for alleged "complicity with criminal groups and propaganda in favour of those groups, whose avowed aim is the perpetration of crimes". He was arrested in France on September 30, after crossing the border at Strasbourg on July 14. He has been in custody since his arrest.

The hearing is likely to be a long one, with defence lawyers from West Germany, Belgium, Italy, Britain and Spain all wanting to take part.

According to the extradition treaty between France and West Germany the authors of crimes and breaches of common law carrying a penalty of more than two years' imprisonment, or prisoners convicted and serving a sentence longer than six months' imprisonment should be extradited.

However, under the treaty if a political offence is involved and the defence will argue that this applies in this case. Their task will not have been helped by the discovery in France of the body of Dr Hanns-Martin Schleyer, the West German industrialist kidnapped by members of the Baader-Meinhof gang.

Our Foreign Staff write: The hunt for the killers of Dr Schleyer has spread to Denmark where police said they were seeking two suspects.

They included the man believed to have bought the car in which Dr Schleyer's body was found and a woman. The hunt was concentrated on Zealand, Denmark's main island, on which Copenhagen stands.

Police named the two as Fräulein Friederike Kräbe and Herr Christen Kler. They included the man who bought the green Audi car in which Dr Schleyer's body was found on October 19 in Mulhouse, eastern France. The two were believed to be travelling in a red, Swedish-registered Volkswagen Passat.

The pair were both on a list of 11 people whom West German police are seeking in connexion with the Schleyer kidnapping.

the hijacking of a Lufthansa airliner to Mogadishu, two murders and other guerrilla raids. In Milan, a Mercedes showroom was attacked with a fire bomb. Attacks on German property have occurred in Italy almost daily since the death of three Baader-Meinhof guerrillas in a West German prison last month.

In Algiers, the Canary Islands' separatist movement announced that it would henceforth attack West German as well as Spanish interests in the islands.

The leader of the group, Señor Antonio Cubillo, said the first anti-West German act was the bombing of a BMW showroom, at Santa Cruz, Tenerife, which caused substantial property damage. A second bomb was planted at a Tenerife restaurant owned by a West German, but was discovered and defused.

In West Berlin an estimated 4,000 demonstrators protested last night at the arrest of three printers of a small left-wing news sheet.

The arrests followed a police raid on flats, bookstores and printing shops looking for evidence linking the news sheet to the West German terrorist movement. The police contend that the publication has been used as a means of communication by terrorists.

Spanish King cancels son's investiture

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, Nov 1

The authorities today substituted an "act of homage" to Prince Felipe, the nine-year-old heir to the throne, in place of a planned investiture ceremony for him as Prince of Asturias, the traditional title of the heir to the throne.

The title was conferred on him in a royal decree signed by his father, King Juan Carlos, in January. The Palace had said that the investiture might cause ill feeling, however, and the ceremony was changed to an act of homage.

Socialist and communist politicians in Asturias who were invited to the homage decided to boycott the ceremony. They say the investiture should be made after the new constitution is drawn up, when the exact form of the homage should be decided. It should wait until the constitution is approved, although it has already been agreed generally that the state will be described as a monarchy.

As a result, the Palace was advised, apparently, within the past 48 hours, that it would be better to postpone the investiture.

King Juan Carlos, accompanied by Queen Sofia, Señor Rodolfo Martín Villa, Minister of the Interior, and members of the Council of the Realm, the country's highest advisory body still in existence, attended a religious ceremony this morning in Covadonga, the village in Asturias where the Spaniards claimed their first victory in their campaign to expel their Moorish conquerors. The Moorish Government had been due to attend but, when the ceremony was changed, it was thought appropriate to send only one representative.

The provincial delegation of Asturias, whose idea it was to hold the investiture ceremony, is not considered representative by politicians in the region, traditionally a left-wing stronghold.

Rival of Señor Carrillo returns to Spain

From William Chislett
Madrid, Nov 1

Señor Enrique Lister, one of the last surviving civil war veterans, returned to Spain next week after 38 years in exile, according to reports published here today.

Señor Lister, secretary-general of the Spanish Workers' Communist Party, was granted a passport in Paris yesterday. He formed the party seven years ago after being expelled from the Spanish Communist Party.

Señor Lister's party was recognized by Moscow as "the true Spanish Communist Party" and he returned to Spain the party headed by Señor Santiago Carrillo, who was

then espousing Eurocommunism. He had condemned the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia. Moscow reverted to recognizing Señor Carrillo's party in 1974, having concluded that Señor Lister was a spent force.

Señor Lister still regards Señor Carrillo as a "traitor". Señor Carrillo travels to Moscow tomorrow, reportedly for the first time in seven years, to attend the sixtieth anniversary of the October Revolution. Señor Lister will not be there.

Señora Dolores Ibarruri, "La Pasionaria", the Spanish Communist Party's president, decided yesterday to go to Moscow where she spent 38 years in exile.

French warning to Algeria over hostages

From Ian Murray
Paris, Nov 1

France is mounting a three-pronged diplomatic campaign in efforts to free the eight hostages believed to be held by the Polisario guerrillas in the Western Sahara. At the same time special troops are being kept on permanent alert for a military intervention and Mirage IV spy aircraft have been flying the desert on the Mauritania-Algerian border to seek out the Polisario columns. The Polisario guerrillas, backed by Algeria, are seeking independence for the Western Sahara, currently ruled by Morocco and Mauritania.

The diplomatic activity is going on in Geneva, Tripoli and Algiers. It is aimed at isolating the help of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the United Nations Government and at forcing the Algerian Government to realize

that it must cooperate in finding and freeing the French hostages.

The French United Nations head of mission in Geneva, Mr Stéphane Hessel, has been to see the head of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Mr Alexander Rey, with a view to sending a representative of the International Red Cross to Algeria. The Saharan Red Cross has already let it be known that it cannot help in negotiations for the release of the hostages.

The French Foreign Ministry Director of African Affairs, Mr Guy Georgey, has been sent to Tripoli, in an attempt to find out how much the Libyans can do to help the release of the hostages.

But it is in Algeria that the main effort is having to be made. The Foreign Ministry here has sent its administrative and consular chiefs, Mr Claude Chayret, to Algiers to underline the message already

Holiday isle strike

Las Palmas, Canary Islands, Nov 1.—Hotel employees on the island of Gran Canaria have decided to strike in support of claims for a 40 per cent wage increase.

sent from President Giscard d'Estaing to President Bourdieu, saying that France is not prepared to wait indefinitely for Algeria to act.

The message pointed out that the hostages were civilians, working to help a developing country, that they had been made prisoners in Mauritania and not in a contested area. It said that there was no doubt that the Polisario guerrillas were financed, armed and controlled by Algeria and that it was up to Algeria to put an end to the affair.

There was an inherent warning in the reminder that France was largely supplying the economic, educational and health services to Algeria, while 800,000 Algerians worked in French territory. If diplomatic methods failed, President Giscard d'Estaing said, France was determined "to use other means".

He assured both officials of United States support for the city's encouraging private investments.

Mr Blumenthal was born in Berlin in 1926 and left the city in 1933 with his family to flee the persecution.

He leaves for Bonn tomorrow.

Napoleonic entrance for Quebec Premier

From Ian Murray
Paris, Nov 1

For the first time in 150 years the main entrance to the Palais Bourbon, which houses the National Assembly, is to be used tomorrow by Mr René Lévesque, Prime Minister of Quebec. This symbolic honour sums up the unusual degree of pomp and ceremony being accorded in France to this first visit of the man who hopes to lead Quebec out of the Canadian confederation.

Mr Lévesque has been in France privately for a week now. In 1944 he served in Lorraine as a war correspondent and liaison officer with the American forces under General Patton. So he has been making a sentimental journey to the area round Metz.

This morning, accompanied by M Alain Peyrefitte, Minister of Justice, he went to Colombes-lez-deux-eglises to see the tomb of General de Gaulle who 10 years ago stirred a cauldron of Canadian emotions by declaring: "Vive le Québec libre".

At the grave he signed the golden book of remembrance and wrote: "Ten years later, accompanied by a number of the vast majority of the Quebecois, I offer homage to a great Frenchman and a great friend of Quebec".

He told journalists that he had come to pay homage to the "historic vision" and the "sympathy" that de Gaulle had shown towards Quebec. He said he was in favour of the idea of creating "a French Commonwealth on the condition that Quebec should be with its own identity and not 'under a Canadian façade'".

Mr Lévesque arrives at Orly tomorrow morning to be greeted by M Barre, the Prime Minister. After the first discussions together the two prime ministers will go to the National Assembly for lunch with M Edgar Faure, president of the assembly.

After lunch Mr Lévesque will tour a special exhibition devoted to Quebec in the assembly library before making what amounts to a state entrance to the assembly itself. The 30 stairs leading up the peristyle of the Palais Bourbon will be overlooking the Pont de la Concorde were reserved by Napoleon for his personal use. They lead through the 12 columns of the facade into the assembly.

Mr Lévesque will be accompanied by M Faure and a dinner given by M Peyrefitte before the following day's reception at the Hôtel de Ville by M Jacques Chirac, the mayor of Paris, who has sent out a thousand invitations.

For lunch he goes to the Elysée Palace, where President Giscard d'Estaing has invited every single member of the Government. After this lunch Mr Lévesque will have further talks with M Barre.

Mr Lévesque's only travelling companion is Mr Claude Morin, the Quebec Minister of Inter-governmental Affairs. The talks he will be having with the senior French Ministers will centre on the relationship he will want to see between France and an independent Quebec. The talks will surround his visit in the near indication that France is eager to welcome a new French-speaking independent nation.

It is true that Quebec prime ministers have always been well received in France. As recently as 1974 Mr Robert Bourassa was allowed to be present at a French Cabinet meeting. Nevertheless, as the reopening of the entrance of Napoleon at the Palais Bourbon shows, France is going out of its way to do honour to the man who may, democratically, avenge the defeat on the Plains of Abraham 214 years ago.

Mr Blumenthal talks with Berlin leaders

From Our Correspondent
Berlin, Nov 1

Mr Michael Blumenthal, the United States Secretary of the Treasury, met Herr Dietrich Stobbe, the Berlin Chief Burgomaster, and Herr Wolfgang Lüder, the Senator in charge of economics, today to discuss possibilities of further American investments in Berlin.

He assured both officials of United States support for the city's encouraging private investments.

Mr Blumenthal was born in Berlin in 1926 and left the city in 1933 with his family to flee the persecution.

He leaves for Bonn tomorrow.

Carabinieri chief killed in helicopter crash

From Robert Schull
Amsterdam, Nov 1

The disappearance of Maurits Caransa, the Netherlands' military police officer, is becoming more of an enigma as each day passes without a sign of life from him or his kidnappers. Only one thing seems more or less certain, the desperate mystery is not of his own making.

Mr Caransa was kidnapped in Amsterdam early last Friday across the road from the Amstel Hotel, a property he once bought by telephone from his sickbed and subsequently sold. This somewhat happy-go-lucky approach to business is characteristic of a man who a few years ago turned down with a shag on offer from Staker and Walker to take over his empire for nearly £25m.

Maurits Caransa has been variously described as an Amsterdam street-urchin who ended up as king of the property business, as an authori-

From barrow boy to property king

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Maurits Caransa has been variously described as an Amsterdam street-urchin who ended up as king of the property business, as an authori-

tive economist without a single diploma, and as a multimillionaire who drives a Rolls-Royce but holidays in Romania because he can get a haircut there for only 60p.

His father was a fuel merchant, and at the age of 12 Maupie, as the youth was known, was on the street pushing his father's barrow of goods for sale. His success story began only after the Second World War.

He survived the Nazi holocaust by "sheer luck" as he once put it. It is a period he avoids talking about. His parents and three brothers were deported to German concentration camps and like hundreds of thousands of fellow Dutch Jews never to return. Only a sister survived besides himself.

The first property bought by Maurits Caransa was a house right in the middle of the Jewish quarter. He bought it

in the hope that if his family returned from Germany they would have no difficulty in finding him. He still owns the house.

After the war, he went into the army surplus business which allowed him to accumulate sufficient capital to venture into the buying and selling of property. After some years he had amassed a considerable fortune and became known to the general public through the acquisition of several well-known shops and hotels mainly in Amsterdam.

A man who refuses to get involved in politics, Mr Caransa is an enthusiastic sports fan, particularly loyal to Ajax football club.

He neither smokes nor drinks. Always in excellent health, he spruces his hair for the red badger. He exercises daily, worried about the safety of his family, but never about his own.

'New system needed' to scrutinize radiation hazards

From Pearce Wright
Science Editor
Whitehaven

A reorganization of the system establishing permissible levels of radiation as a direct consequence of nuclear power was suggested to the Windscale public inquiry yesterday.

It came from Dr John K. Spearing, an eminent biologist, of Keswick, who is appearing as a personal objector to plans to build a new plant for reprocessing waste nuclear fuel on the Cumbrian coast.

His evidence, completed in a final submission to the inquiry yesterday, related to deficiencies in the processes by which safety standards are set, and suggested national and international action needed to cure them.

In Dr Spearing's view, part of the difficulty was historical, because the procedures for examining safety standards had evolved before the onset of the nuclear power industry, when the uses of radiation were confined to medicine and defence.

That background was reflected in the composition of the International Radiological Protection Commission (IRPC), which is a self-selected body drawn mainly from radiologists.

Dr Spearing said its recommendations were regarded as "so authoritative that they must never be questioned, and moreover, never are questioned" by government departments and bodies.

Yet those safety standards originated in 1953 and were no longer suitable. That had been

recognized by organizations in the United States and Germany concerned with public safety, Dr Spearing said.

The attitude of government departments could be justified, he maintained, only if IRPC members were elected by a totally unbiased and widely based body of professionally qualified people, and if it could keep its recommendations abreast of advances in biological knowledge.

He described how it took eight years for the IRPC to alter an important standard for assessing radiation hazards. That was clearly unsatisfactory. He suggested that its functions could be taken over by an independent body set up by the World Health Organization.

Dr Spearing asked Mr Justice

Parker, the inspector, in the meantime, to recommend a new system for scrutinizing radiation hazards on the lines of the Environmental Protection Agency in America, an organization that invited criticism of proposed standards and held public hearings.

Dumping denial: Mr Arthur Scott, secretary of British Nuclear Fuels, was recalled to the inquiry yesterday to deny allegations that plutonium and highly radioactive waste from the reprocessing plant was being dumped in Australia (the Press Association reports).

The allegations had been made by Mrs Catherine Dalton, widow of a nuclear scientist and daughter of Mr Robert Graves, the author.

JP/100150

OVERSEAS

Ethiopia uses Russian weapons to strike back at Somali rebels

Above the Kara Marda Pass, Ethiopia, Nov. 1.—Ethiopia has launched a series of punishing counterattacks against Somali insurgents fighting to capture the mountain fortress of Harar, according to the insurgent field commander.

The Ethiopians have deployed a large amount of advanced Soviet weaponry in the battle and are using specialists from Cuba and South Yemen, he said. Jama Hassan, who commands Western Somali Liberation Front forces in the area, told a group of foreign journalists on a tour of captured Ethiopian territory that his troops were encountering the stiffer resistance they had faced since their offensive began in earnest at the end of July.

While conceding a material disadvantage against the Ethiopians, Mr. Hassan said he was confident his troops would eventually prevail in the fighting for Harar.

"The land is against them and the people of Harar are Somali," he said. "The Ethiopians have new weapons, but this will not be a problem for the liberation front."

Fighting for Harar has been going on since the beginning of September, just after the insurgents captured the Ethiopian tank base of Jijiga, which lies on the plains just east of Kara Marda Pass.

Along with the industrial centre of Dire Dawa, Jijiga and Harar comprise the main Ethiopian defence line for the figure as high as 2,000.—UPI.

region. The insurgents need to take three towns in order to cement their hold on captured territory to the south.

Mr. Hassan said fighting now centred round Babbie, a town about two-thirds of the way from Jijiga to Harar, a distance of 60 miles. The insurgents were also fighting the Ethiopians in the hills round the ancient walled city. The insurgents had taken the eastern half of Babbie but had not succeeded in cutting the supply road which links to Harar to Addis Ababa.

The Ethiopians have command of the air and make daily raids against Somali positions from a base located outside Dire Dawa. Moonsoon rains in the past week have grounded the Ethiopian squadrons of American F5 fighters and Soviet military aircraft.

Mr. Hassan said the rains were a mixed blessing because they hindered the Somali supply effort. Traffic on the narrow, faced road which runs from Somalia has been brought to a crawl by accumulated water and long stretches of axle-deep mud.

The Ethiopians, who have been receiving a steady supply of Soviet arms since they expelled American military personnel in April, are fielding such strategic weapons as heavy T55 tanks, long-range 155mm artillery and rocket artillery.

Western diplomatic sources in Mogadishu place the Cuban presence in Ethiopia at about 300 men. Some Somalis put the figure as high as 2,000.—UPI.

Queen to fly home on Concorde today

From Michael Leaman.

Bridgetown, Nov. 1.—The Queen fulfilled her last big engagement of her silver jubilee tour today when she opened the Barbados Parliament in the picturesque grey stone administration building in the heart of Bridgetown, capital of Barbados. Tomorrow she leaves for London on her first flight in Concorde and opens the British Parliament on Thursday.

The tour, which has taken her some 56,000 miles in 33 countries, including 3,000 miles travelling around Britain. When 250 guests packed the decks on the royal yacht Britannia to-night to watch her return being beaten on the quayside, it brought about 5,000 the number of guests who have been entertained on the yacht this year.

There is much satisfaction among the royal party about the way the jubilee tour has gone. For the jubilee of King George VI in 1935, the leaders of the Empire and Commonwealth went to London to pay homage; the Queen decided that this time it would be more in keeping with the modern Commonwealth if she went out to see its peoples.

In doing so, she brought to a new pitch the technique of "walkabouts" which she began using seven years ago. She enjoys them and more as she finds out how to draw



The Queen inspects a guard of honour after arriving in Bridgetown, Barbados.

people," one observer of this year's tour observed. Arthur Reed, Our Air Correspondent, writes: British Airways says the Concorde bringing the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh home will cover the 3,666 miles between Barbados and London in less than four hours, or about half the time taken by subsonic jets.

As the aircraft cruises at 60,000ft at 1,350 mph over the Atlantic, the royal party will be served what the airline describes as "a typical Concorde lunch".

This will include examples of paté de foie gras, smoked salmon and caviar, fresh salmon or breast of duckling, and fresh strawberries. Wines will include a 1969 champagne, a 1970 white, Bordeaux, a 1971 red, Bordeaux and a 1976 Burgundy.

Canberra, Nov. 1.—The Prince of Wales arrived at the Royal Australian Air Force base of Fairbairn today, beginning an 11-day tour of Australia as part of the Silver Jubilee year celebrations.

The Prince was first greeted by Sir John Kerr, the Governor-General, and Mr. Malcolm Fraser, the Australian Prime Minister, in Sydney. He flew from Sydney on board an RAAF BAC119 jet after arriving from San Francisco on a regular Qantas Boeing 747 with his household staff of 10.

The tour has a note of informality about it. There were no bands or inspections for the Prince. About 100 people were at Fairbairn to greet him on his arrival.—UPI.

Soviet supersonic jet goes into service

Alma Ata, Nov. 1.—The Soviet supersonic airliner, TU144, today carried out a noisy but smooth inaugural flight, opening a regular passenger service between Moscow and Alma Ata, the capital of Kazakhstan.

The estimated 80 passengers, most of them journalists and civilian aviation officials including the aircraft's designer, Mr. Alexei Tupolev, had to shout to make themselves heard in the cabin.

The TU144 covered the 2,000 miles in just under two hours at speeds reaching more than 1,250 mph. It returned to Moscow by mid-afternoon.

Mr. Tupolev acknowledged the noise problem inside the airliner but dismissed the question of sonic booms generated outside.

"The sonic boom is no different than a thunderclap—so it is no different than nature itself," he told an airport press conference on landing here.

He acknowledged that the cabin noise was some five decibels louder than his most recent product, the TU154 trijet airliner and said: "We are looking into the problem."

It was caused by the supersonic airliner's four huge jet engines' need to reach Mach 2 speeds, as well as by an air ventilation system needed to cool the 248°F (120°C) temperatures of the airliner's outside titanium cover.

Captain Boris Kuznetsov, the pilot, sent the TU144, with its curious single stabilizing wing extending from the front, thundering noisily down the runway to take off at 9 am, and go into a steep climb that thrust

passengers far back in their narrow seats.

Twenty minutes later the airliner, having cleared Moscow's more populous zones, hit Mach 2.

Three Aeroflot hostesses dispensed cognac, wine, caviar and roast beef from serving carts which could barely negotiate the narrow aisle.

Seating in the front half of the supersonic airliner is three on one side of the aisle and two on the other. In the narrower rear part of the fuselage the seating is two by two.

It was noisy every inch of the way, even when the airliner was theoretically outrunning its own sound. The cloakroom and rest room section at the very rear were almost unbearably noisy.

Shortly before 11 am the TU144 dropped into the mountain-ringed valley which hugs the Chinese border and Captain Kuznetsov touched the runway and let out the drag parachute needed to assist braking.

The trouble-plagued TU144 has been under development for nearly a decade. Today's inaugural passenger flight had originally been scheduled for more than six years ago.

A number of setbacks pushed the schedule back. The most spectacular was the crash of a TU144 prototype at the 1973 Paris air show in which 14 people were killed.

Thus it was only today—two years after the Anglo-French Concorde went into service—that the pride of Soviet aviation began doing its job.—UPI.

Human rights warning to US ignored

Belgrade, Nov. 1.—The United States is ignoring a Soviet warning that the human rights issue could break up the Belgrade conference on European security, today criticized political repression in East Europe and alleged violations of the 1975 Helsinki agreement.

Mr. Arthur Goldberg, the American chief delegate, said: "It is difficult to agree that there is justification for the arrests and convictions of peaceful advocates whose trials appear related in large part to the question of the way the [Helsinki] final act is being implemented."

Mr. Yuli Vorontsov, the Soviet representative, replied that the United States appeared to be "reverting to the cold war."

"What is the purpose of this conference: to hurl barbs at each other or to improve trade and reduce nuclear arms?" he asked.

Western delegates called the Russian reply "low-key", however, and said it indicated the

apparent Soviet threat of a walk-out was not serious.

Mr. Goldberg referred to the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and Poland by name in his 50-minute speech, which centred on a provision in the Helsinki agreement which calls on the nations of Europe to "respect human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief". He agreed that the United States had been guilty of some human rights violations.

"In spite of the blemishes on our record, the point is that governmental institutions in the United States are working to eliminate injustices rather than to deny them," he said.

According to delegates, Mr. Vorontsov replied: "The United States delegate has spoken about his own country, but when he gave examples of injustices he no longer spoke about the United States, but about other countries where the situation is obviously less familiar to him."—UPI.

In brief

Shoppers die in firecracker blaze

Ixmiquilpan, Mexico, Nov. 1.—A firecracker stand in an open-air market here exploded in flames last night, killing at least nine people and injuring 39, three of them seriously. The market was crowded as families did their shopping for the All Souls Day holiday.

The owner of one stand was apparently demonstrating a firecracker for a customer when it dropped into the stand and exploded.

Warrant for Fischer

Pasadena, California, Nov. 1.—Police have issued a warrant accusing Bobby Fischer, aged 34, the former world chess champion, of forcing his way into the home of Mrs. Holly Kutz, a magazine writer, and hitting her on the face because of a story about his affiliation with the Worldwide Church of God.

Judgment reserved

Islamabad, Nov. 1.—The Supreme Court ended the hearing of a petition against the detention of Mr. Bhutto, the former Prime Minister, and 10 of his government and party leaders. Chief Justice Anwar ul-Haque said that he would deliver a short verbal judgment next week.

Professor honoured

New York, Nov. 1.—Professor Francis Haskell, of Oxford University, has won the first annual Mitchell Prize for the History of Art for his *Rediscoveries in Art*, an examination of changing artistic tastes in England and France in the nineteenth century.

Surinam election

Georgetown, Guyana, Nov. 1.—The ruling coalition led by Mr. Henk Arron, the Prime Minister, was returned to power in Surinam's first general election since it gained independence from The Netherlands in November, 1975.

'Plumber' arrested

New York, Nov. 1.—Mr. Frank Scavino, one of the "plumbers" in the Watergate scandal, has been arrested and charged with intimidating a witness linked with an inquiry into President Kennedy's assassination, police said here.

French envoy drowns

Papeete, Tahiti, Nov. 1.—M. Charles Schmitt, the French High Commissioner to French Polynesia, was drowned today in a boating accident.

Anti-hijack resolution is approved

New York, Nov. 1.—The United Nations General Assembly's special political committee today condemned aircraft hijacking and called on all states to tighten airport and airline security.

The resolution, adopted without a vote, appealed to all states to adhere to three existing international treaties directed against interference with commercial aviation. The draft now goes to the assembly for endorsement.

The 149-nation committee took up the hijacking issue last week after the International Federation of Air Line Pilots Associations threatened a 48-hour walkout if the United Nations did not deal with the problem urgently.

A number of amendments were made to the original text of the resolution, mainly to meet objections by Arab, African and other Third World states.

One part of the resolution called for "joint and separate action" by all states to ensure that air passengers and crew are not used as a means of extorting advantage of any kind.

This was amended to make such action "subject to respect for the purposes and principles of the charter and the relevant United Nations declarations, covenants and resolutions and without prejudice to the sovereignty or territorial integrity of any state."—Reuters.

Fleet Street is still 'the same old jungle'

Hongkong, Nov. 1.—Sir Denis Hamilton, chairman and editor-in-chief of Times Newspapers, said here today that losses caused by newspapers by industrial disputes in Fleet Street this year were "frightful and catastrophic".

"Fleet Street is the same old jungle of overmanaging and unfair claims," he said at a luncheon. "The Times had installed millions of pounds worth of new printing machinery."

"Once it does work, it will be a major contribution to keeping *The Times* going over this century," he said.

The unions had referred the issue to the shop floor, but "the shop floor" has resisted the use of new technology in Fleet Street across the board.

Sir Denis said that in the United States the unions had decided to concentrate the fight on getting the best deal from management in exchange for accepting the new technology. He hoped the same would happen in Fleet Street.—Reuters.



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OVERSEAS

Lack of money forces UN relief body to halve refugee rations

Beirut, Nov. 1. — Financial difficulties have forced the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) to halve its rations of flour to Palestinian refugees, but the agency today denied a report of plans to stop food aid altogether.

The left-wing Beirut newspaper *Al-Kifah* al-Arabi had reported that UNRWA had decided to stop providing food to the refugees from January 1, 1978, although educational and health services would be maintained.

"This is completely false," Mr Robert Prevot, the local UNRWA director, said today. "No final decision has been taken. What has been decided is to reduce the flour ration for the last four months of this year."

Some 831,000 of the 1,700,000 Palestinian refugees registered with UNRWA in Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and the Israeli occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip receive monthly rations, which normally consist of 22lb of flour, which has now been cut to 11lb, as well as sugar, rice and cooking oil.

"Our budget deficit for this year is \$12m. If there are no additional contributions, I am afraid the cut in the flour ration will stand next year as well," Mr Prevot said.

Since its establishment in 1950, UNRWA has often suffered from budgetary prob-

lems. The 19-month civil war in Lebanon aggravated its financial difficulties.

Mr Thomas McElhinney, the commissioner-general of UNRWA, outlined the grim financial situation of the agency in a recent report to the United Nations General Assembly. The organization will require \$138m (£76m) to operate in 1978, according to UNRWA budget estimates.

Much of the difficulty stems from the fact that UNRWA is dependent on voluntary contributions made at an annual "pledging conference" which takes place this month in New York.

The United States is by far the largest regular donor, providing 53 per cent of all UNRWA operating funds since it started in 1950, followed by Britain, which has contributed 11 per cent. Mr McElhinney has asked for contributions to be pledged in advance so that agency officials could plan on a three-year basis.

The Lebanon civil war disrupted UNRWA operations and forced it to move its headquarters from Beirut to Amman and Vienna. Mr Prevot said UNRWA hopes to return to Beirut by the end of the year.

About 30,000 refugees were displaced during the civil war and UNRWA schools, buildings and refugee shelters suffered considerable damage.—UPI.

Strikes spread in Israel against austerity moves

From Michael Knappe Jerusalem, Nov. 1

Protest strikes against the Government's new economic policies continued in Israel today closely coordinated by the trade unions.

About 70,000 workers staged work stoppages of between four and 24 hours in Haifa, the country's third largest city. Similar actions yesterday grounded all El Al aircraft and kept some 12,000 workers away from their jobs in the southern coastal industrial centre of Ashdod. Tomorrow the action is to centre on Beersheba, in the Negev, where workers' representatives have called a one-day general strike.

The protest actions are being organized by the local labour councils of the Histadrut (trade union federation) as an expression of resentment at the Government's sweeping economic reforms introduced last Friday. Under the measures, currency controls have been abandoned

causing a 44 per cent devaluation of the Israeli pound and hefty increases in the cost of living.

The Opposition's Labour Alignment and its supporters contend that the economic reforms will benefit the better off sections of the community at the expense of the underprivileged. The Government is complaining that the strikes are being organized for political rather than economic reasons.

In the Knesset, where the Government gained approval for the measures by a 53 to 32 vote last night, Mr Eshkol, the Finance Minister, maintained that real wages would not decline under the new arrangements.

Mr Yehoshua Rabinowitz, the previous Minister of Finance, conceded that the new measures had some positive features but said that they placed an unfair burden on the workers without any attempt at a more just distribution of the burden.



Mr Andrew Young, the American representative, casting a vote in the Security Council on Monday.

Foreign Office explains UN vetoes

By Roger Berthoud

Foreign Office officials sought to explain yesterday why Britain, with the United States and France, vetoed three resolutions at the United Nations on Monday night which called for embargoes on the sale of arms to South Africa and on new investment there.

To the outside, the Security Council decisions were the more baffling since the three Western powers, supported by West Germany and Canada, had themselves earlier taken the considerable step of tabling their own draft resolution proposing an arms embargo. They hope this will be voted on later this week.

Munday's vetoes were yesterday roundly condemned by the Anti-Apartheid Movement. A spokesman said that two of the resolutions, calling for a mandatory, permanent arms embargo and for a freeze on new investment, seemed "eminently reasonable". These proposals, he said, had the support in Britain of the Labour and Liberal Parties and of the TUC.

"We have argued since the movement was founded in 1959 that unless action were taken to cut military, political and economic links with South Africa, the British Government would inevitably, whatever it wanted

to do, be obliged to side with the status quo. Last night we saw that happening."

It was, the spokesman said, long-term political suicide. If there were a race war in South Africa, those who had given weapons and funds to the apartheid regime would be responsible.

To the Foreign Office, however, Monday's vetoes were wholly consistent with declared Western policy and should have surprised an shocked no one. The resolutions in question had been tabled in March by African members of the Security Council. The Western powers had let it be known all along that they would vote against several of them.

Meanwhile they had carefully concerned their own positions on sanctions, and last Friday Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, was able to say in a speech that Britain, with the United States, France, Canada and West Germany, would "vote in favour of a resolution containing a mandatory arms embargo against South Africa, and will accept a commitment to review our economic relationships with South Africa."

Why then did these powers on Monday night put them-

selves in the position once again of appearing to the outside world to rescue South Africa from effective international action?

Largely, according to official explanations, because they did not like the wording of the African arms embargo resolution, which was alleged "persistent military action" by South Africa against neighbouring states at the main threat to peace, rather than internal repression; and they feared possible repercussions on negotiations over Namibia and Rhodesia. On the economic front, they were not prepared to "cede to the demand for mandatory measures."

Meanwhile the West's draft resolution, in a revised version tabled by Canada and West Germany, lies on the table. It would direct all member states to "cease forthwith any provision of arms to South Africa," including paramilitary police equipment and all spare parts.

It calls for a progress report by May 1, 1978, but no longer gives any time limit for the duration of the ban. Our Johannesburg Correspondent writes: "The Western powers were given a guarded, almost grudging welcome by Mr R. F. Botha, the South African Foreign Minister.

"We will not approve the disbandment of any of our forces," Mr van der Byl said. "The security forces will remain inviolate. We expect the war against the Patriotic Front guerrillas to go on. It was 'unreal' to expect Rhodesia to start disbanding its army and hand its troops

Rhodesian doubts on Carver mission

From Nicholas Ashford Salisbury, Nov. 1

It was "very doubtful" whether the mission of Field Marshal Lord Carver, British resident commissioner designate, to discuss a ceasefire in Rhodesia would succeed, Mr James van der Byl, the Rhodesian Foreign Minister, said today.

In an interview with *The Times* on the eve of Lord Carver's arrival in Salisbury, Mr van der Byl made it clear that the Rhodesian Government intended to proceed with its plans for an internal settlement if the present Anglo-American initiative failed.

Lord Carver is due in Salisbury tomorrow from Dar es Salaam where he held a brief round of talks with leaders of the Patriotic Front yesterday. General Prem Chand, the United Nations special representative, is also due here tomorrow. A separate British diplomatic mission, headed by Mr John Gaudin, deputy Under-Secretary for the Foreign Office, will arrive on Thursday.

A programme has not yet been announced for Lord Carver's visit. He is expected to see Mr Smith, the Prime Minister, and military leaders and may also visit an "operational area". On Friday he will meet leaders of the main internally-based nationalist movements, the Bishop Abel Muzorewa and the Rev Nkomo's ZAPU.

Mr van der Byl said he was doubtful about Lord Carver's mission succeeding because of the "very difficult" nature of the task. He said the Rhodesians are also unhappy about Lord Carver's status and the powers he would be given under the Anglo-American plan. "As far as we are concerned," Mr van der Byl said, "Carver is only coming here in response to our invitation to discuss questions concerning the practicalities of a ceasefire. That is all. He is not coming here as some kind of mediator."

The minister made clear that Rhodesia was not prepared to make any compromises on the crucial question of the role of the security forces during a transition period. The Anglo-American plan calls for the disbandment of certain units of the Rhodesian armed forces and for the creation of a new Zimbabwe army based on the white guerrillas.

"We will not approve the disbandment of any of our forces," Mr van der Byl said. "The security forces will remain inviolate. We expect the war against the Patriotic Front guerrillas to go on. It was 'unreal' to expect Rhodesia to start disbanding its army and hand its troops

over to a man who had no real power at all."

Mr van der Byl has a reputation as Rhodesia's most outspoken leader, and he was extremely critical of both the British and American role in Rhodesia.

He accused Dr Owen, the Foreign Secretary, during his recent visit to Moscow of making a deal with the Russians which is reminiscent of nothing so much as the Molotov-Ribbentrop deal over the dismemberment of Poland. He said the history of East-West détente had been one of making deals with the Russians which the "foolish West" honoured although the Russians gave nothing at all in return.

Mr van der Byl went on to describe President Carver's Administration as "mindless" and one which was "prepared to go on throwing as many bones to the crocodiles as they can" in order to avoid a confrontation with the Russians.

He added: "The result is a tripartite American-British-Russian setup in southern Africa. It's almost unbelievable."

Mr van der Byl is a key member of the Rhodesian Government's negotiating team. He recently accompanied Mr Smith to Lusaka for talks with President Banda of Zambia.

For all Mr van der Byl's fighting talk, more and more Rhodesian whites now believe that a black government will be in power in Salisbury by the end of the year.

As one senior official put it: "What is going to emerge is a black dictatorship. We must try to ensure that it will be a benevolent one, as in Malawi. That is all we can hope for. All this talk about elections and democracy is a load of nonsense."

What remains to be decided is who will make up the black government and how it will take over power. This is basically the problem facing Lord Carver.

Paradoxically, the Government of Mr Smith and the Patriotic Front share the same principal objections to the Anglo-American settlement package.

Both disapprove of the far-reaching powers which Lord Carver will wield during the transitional period and both reject the plan's proposals for the security forces. The Patriotic Front wants the Rhodesian army disbanded and replaced by its own guerrilla army. The Rhodesian Government wants to keep its forces intact.

Lord Carver will receive a more sympathetic hearing from the internally-based nationalist groups headed by Bishop Muzorewa and Mr Sithole who between them are said to have the support of the majority of blacks in Rhodesia.

These groups have an interest in seeing the bulk of the Rhodesian armed forces retained and transformed into a new Zimbabwe force as they have few guerrillas of their own.

Burmese troops kill 500 communist rebels

From Our Correspondent Rangoon, Nov. 1

The Burmese Army killed more than 500 communist guerrillas and lost 126 soldiers including 13 officers, in battles last month near its north-eastern border with China, the Government announced today. A further 39 troops were missing and 237 wounded.

Burmese Air Force aircraft attacked rebel positions, and a Vampire jet fighter crashed in the area.

There were at least 25 big engagements in the zone, including October 3 and 27, including 10 that involved hand-to-hand fighting. Government troops were pursuing the rebels up to their headquarters at Ho Swan, on the border.

The engagements began when more than 1,500 men of the Burmese Communist Party tried to capture a strategic highway. Troops, supported by the People's Militia and local villagers, foiled their plan, according to the announcement.

"The enemy withdrew in disarray to the border, leaving 373 bodies of over 500 rebels killed," it said.

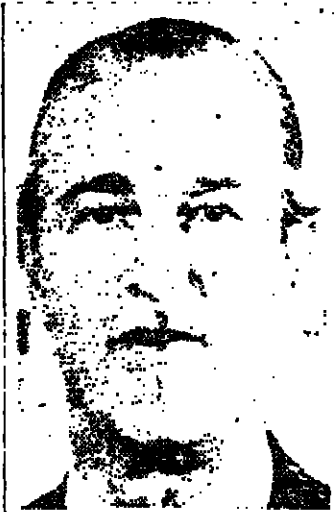
This is the first detailed official statement on the fighting, though officials said earlier today that senior military leaders had toured the area over the weekend and visited units fighting the communist rebels.

Brigadier-General Aye Ko, the deputy chief of staff and Deputy Defence Minister, visited the border region twice in the past two weeks.

More than 500 communist guerrillas were reported to have been killed by government forces in the first eight months of this year in eastern Burma. Burmese troops have been fighting the guerrillas since the communists took to the jungle in 1946.

In November, 1971, the communists hurled thousands of rebel troops at a strategic town in north-east Burma, but were repulsed by government forces, supported by aircraft and artillery, drove them back after 40 days of fighting.

Observers said that the resurgence of rebel activity in the north-east border region might mean that the main communist thrust was once more directed there.—Reuter.



Mr Richard Helms: staying out of jail.

Leniency for Mr Helms is criticized

From Patrick Brogan Washington, Nov. 1

The news that Mr Richard Helms, former Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), will probably not go to jail for telling lies to the Senate has surprised nobody here, although many people are expressing dismay at the decision.

Senator Frank Church, who was chairman of a Senate committee which investigated the CIA in 1975-76, said: "I thought there was to be an end to the double standard of justice for the big shot. Apparently Helms was too hot to handle."

Mr Helms pleaded *nolo contendere* (no contest) to two minor charges of failing to give complete answers to questions put to him by Senate committee in 1973. The maximum sentence for each offence is a year in jail and a fine of \$1,000 (£550). The Department of Justice recommended that Mr Helms should be given a suspended sentence.

The judge in whose court Mr Helms appeared yesterday said that he did not accept the arrangement and would pass sentence later. It is not likely, however, that he will send Mr Helms to jail.

This is the same procedure that was followed in the case of Mr Richard Kleindienst, a Nixon Attorney-General, who also lied to a Senate Committee. He was fined with a fine and a suspended sentence.

Coincidentally, International Telephone and Telegraph was involved in both cases. The two offences which Mr Helms was acquitted were that he lied about the CIA's involvement in efforts to defeat Dr Salvador Allende's election as President of Chile in 1970, and that on another occasion he lied about ITT's involvement in the same enterprise.

Mr Helms was director of the CIA until his appointment as Ambassador to Iran early in 1973. Mr Nixon pushed him out because he did not co-operate fully in the Watergate cover-up.

In its statement to the judge yesterday, the Justice Department spoke of Mr Helms's services to his country, and said: "The trial of the case would involve tremendous costs to the United States, and might jeopardize national secrets."

Mr Helms believed that under the statute setting up the CIA he was bound to protect the agency and its secrets. He told the judge: "I found myself in a position of conflict. I didn't want to die. I didn't want to mislead the Senate. I was simply trying to find my way through a very difficult situation in which I found myself."

Many of Mr Helms's statements to congressional committees were disingenuous or flatly misleading. The once famous *nolo contendere* plea was particularly flimsy. ITT had long consultations with the CIA on contributions it might make to defeat Dr Allende, and the CIA made strenuous efforts to defeat him or to prevent his inauguration when he won the 1970 election.

Correction

The Prisoner of Conscience column on Señor Julian Lopez Pablo in Monday's paper was concerned throughout with El Salvador, not Bolivia as stated in the article's headline and introduction.



The making of two classic styles of sherry.

Throughout the summer, white Palomino grapes were slowly ripening on the gently rolling hills that surround Jerez de la Frontera.

They were harvested in September, then pressed, and now the mosto (juice) is being allowed to ferment freely in casks within the cool, vaulted bodegas.

By next Spring, certain mostos will be developing flor (yeast on the surface of the young wine), and others will not.

Only those that do will ultimately become finos or amontillados.

The classic fino is very pale in colour and very dry to taste, with a delicate bouquet. Luncheon Dry is just such a fino, and is always best served chilled as it is in Jerez itself.

The classic amontillado is richer in colour and medium dry to taste, with a particular nuttiness from the cask. Such is the character of Club Amontillado.

LUNCHEON DRY & CLUB AMONTILLADO
from Harveys of Bristol

Professor warns of slide that could lead 'from Weimar to Hitler'

From Warren Weaver Washington, Nov. 1

Professor Raoul Berger, the legal scholar and historian, has fired a broadside at the Supreme Court of the past 25 years that is likely to startle many of the liberal political admirers he won in the Nixon years.

Professor Berger, a senior fellow at the Harvard Law School, attracted attention in recent years by his books on impeachment and executive privilege containing legal arguments against the standards taken by Mr Richard Nixon, the former President.

Now, in a book that has just been published, Professor Berger accuses the Supreme Court of usurping power and handing down sweeping social decisions that, he says, violate the Constitution, involving in the process memories of both Mr Nixon and Adolf Hitler.

How long can public respect for the court, on which its power ultimately depends, survive if the people become aware that the tribunal which condemns the acts of others as unconstitutional is itself acting

unconstitutionally?" he asks.

"Respect for the limits of power are the essence of a democratic society; without it, the entire democratic structure is undermined, and the way is paved from Weimar to Hitler." He insists that the nation "should not tolerate the spectacle of a court that pretends to apply" constitutional mandates while, in fact, revising them in accordance with the preferences of a majority of the justices, who seek to impose their will on the nation.

"Mr Richard Nixon learnt at last that even a President cannot set himself above the law," that he is obliged to accept the laws he has faithfully executed.

It is necessary and right that the nine justices be held "to a like standard," Professor Berger writes, quoting approvingly from Mr Louis Lusk's 1975 book, *By What Right?*

Professor Berger's book, *Government by Judiciary*, was published by the Harvard University Press. He remained the title of Charles Warren senior fellow in American legal history at the Harvard Law School after his retirement last year.

The book focuses its criticism on two decisions of the court under Chief Justice Earl Warren: the 1954 ruling outlawing racial segregation in the public schools and the dual rulings of 1962 and 1964 that established the "one-man, one-vote" rule for apportionment of districts for elective office.

In both instances, Professor Berger argues, the High Court far exceeded the intentions of the 35th Congress that drafted the 14th amendment to the Constitution. That amendment, he maintains, left the states free after the civil war to decide individually whether schools should remain segregated or blacks be allowed to vote, and thus provides no support for the later Supreme Court rulings.

Professor Berger is also critical of the court headed by Chief Justice Warren Burger, who succeeded Mr Warren in 1969, for judicial "legislating," but not at as great a length. He says that it would be inopportune to show in detail that the strict constructionist Burger court clings as firmly to judicial governance as its predecessor.


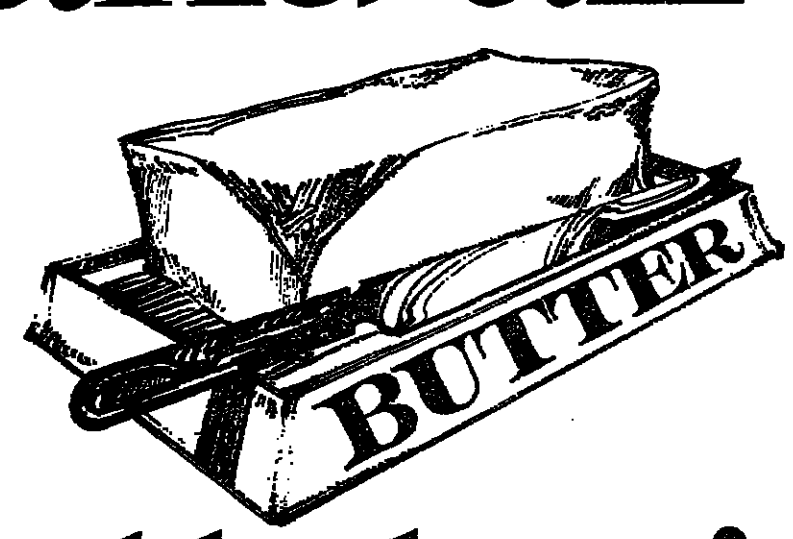
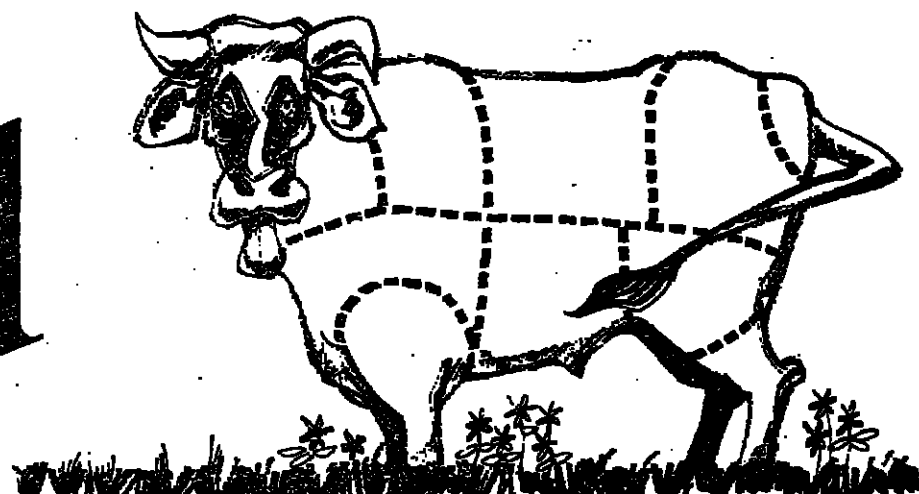
He is specifically critical, however, of a 1970 ruling of the Burger Court that permitted the use of juries of six rather than 12 members.

Professor Berger concedes in the conclusion of his book that it would be unrealistic to expect the Supreme Court to adopt his narrow view of the due process and equal protection clauses of the fourteenth amendment and reverse desegregation decisions that were based on a contrary interpretation.

He suggests, however, that the justices "might begin by curbing their reach for still more policy making power" by withdrawing from future decisions involving school busing, reapportionment, criminal law, obscenity and libel and leaving these matters to state courts and legislatures, subject only to constitutional limitations.

As an indication of why he undertook the 400-page attack on the contemporary Supreme Court, Professor Berger declares: "A primary task of scholarship is to enlighten public awareness that the court has been oversteering its bounds." —New York Times News Service.

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IPSWICH

Natural growth versus a 'Canute' policy

by Geoffrey Weston

Ipswich lies at the head of the Orwell estuary and, with its population of 123,000, is by far the largest town in Suffolk. Traditionally it has been a market town serving a wide rural area with some of the richest agricultural land in Britain, as well as a port and trading centre with the Continent. Much of its substantial growth in recent years and its bright economic prospects are built on these foundations.

In 1842 the largest dock in Britain was built and although it now ranks only tenth in size it has been ideally placed, together with Felixstowe and Harwich, for the increasing traffic generated by Britain's entry into the EEC.

Local industry, based on agricultural demands such as farm machinery, fertilizers and brewing, is widely diversified, and this trend, reflected in the increasing proportion of general cargo movements through the port, lies behind the prosperity the town now enjoys.

An attempt in the late 1960s to attract office developments resulted in the arrival in 1969 of what is now the Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance and in 1974 of Willis Faber and Dumas, the international insurance brokers. Between them they have almost 2,500 employees, and for the moment further office development is restricted to small pockets around the town. By 1981, about two thirds of the working population is expected to be employed in the service sector and one third in manufacturing. A tiny proportion within the borough limits will still work in agriculture. Unemployment, at 5.2 per cent, is consistently below the average for East Anglia (5.7 per cent) and for Britain (6.7 per cent).

The borough council now reserves housing for skilled workers, who are in seriously short supply, a measure designed to create jobs for the unskilled who form the bulk of the unemployed. In the medium term demand for housing will become harder

to satisfy because the town has built almost up to its boundaries. Although there is still plenty of space for industry and warehousing, there is no more than six years' supply of housing land.

The only alternative has been to buy land outside the boundary and apply to build houses on it. Thorrington Hall, a stretch of tenanted farmland to the south-west, has been bought for this purpose, but Babergh District Council, the local authority, has refused planning permission and suggested that Ipswich should expand eastwards towards the coast, ignoring the recommendations of regional planning studies. Suffolk Coastal District Council, on the other hand, is equally unwelcoming.

The frustration of the borough council is summed up by its chief executive, Mr Robert Cross, who maintains: "We have got to accept the natural growth of places like Ipswich rather than expand small urban areas that do not have the necessary services. The present 'Canute' policy can only continue for so long, but people must have work. The alternative is massive unemployment."

Although Ipswich has long been on a political knife-edge (it has a Labour MP, Mr Ken Weerch, and a Conservative councillor—both with small majorities), part of the blight on planning from which it now suffers arises from indecision by central government. In 1962 a plan was mooted to designate Ipswich and Felixstowe an expanding town on an eight-mile axis. Seven years later the plan was dropped.

Meanwhile the beginning of an internal ring road, known as Civic Way and expanding town on an eight-mile axis. Seven years later the plan was dropped.

From this period date the Civic Centre, whose architecture bears no relationship to its importance, and the more disastrous Greyfriars—a mixed development of offices, flats, car park and what should have been shops. The shops are almost

entirely under because they are cut off from the main shopping district by an area of small offices and by Franciscan Way, which cannot be crossed at this point.

Few inhabitants would dispute that the town's vital need is for new roads. The dominance of the town within its region places it under increasing pressures from shoppers, business people and the growing volume of container traffic travelling from the ports of Ipswich and Felixstowe to London and the Midlands, as well as growing tourist traffic from the Continent.

In 1970 the Department of the Environment began to realize that Ipswich was no longer the country town out on a limb that it had been until only a few years before. Initially the borough council wanted a road built as far from the town as practical to afford space for expansion, and consultations suggested a southern route was preferable.

The process was complicated by the emphasis in the regional strategic plan on restoring urban expansion or loss of valuable agricultural land and by the need for the road to cross the Orwell, which outside the town flows through an area of outstanding natural beauty. For these reasons, the borough council suggested bridging the river close to the town, thereby reducing the impact on the rural landscape.

Deprivation has reduced the aim to a by-pass as soon as possible: the subsidiary issues have become irrelevant. The latest line of the by-pass is planned to pass through Thorrington Hall, so the borough council has tried to change its route.

The county council has attempted a compromise by suggesting in its strategic plan that Ipswich should develop Thorrington Hall only as far as the line of the new road (a seventh of its total area) but Babergh, using its planning powers to the full, declined. The DoE will hold a public enquiry on the dispute this month.

None of these difficulties, in spite of their effect on living conditions, appears to have hampered distribution processes. A final decision on the line of the by-pass is likely in the next few months.

with the prospect of improved roads to the Midlands, local people talk of even greater expansion in the early 1980s.

Almost as pressing, however, is the need for an east-west internal ring road to ease the traffic servicing the town. Such a measure would open the way for permanent pedestrian streets in the centre, at present closed to wheeled traffic only in off-peak periods.

Ipswich suffers too much from being associated with its famous football team and nothing more. It compares unfavourably with Norwich, the other dominant town of East Anglia, but it has no cathedral, no university and no surviving castle. If it has no local point, it has no lack of interesting buildings and streets or of good shops.

The square in front of the Italianate Victorian town hall, at present bisected by bus shelters, would make a natural town centre if pedestrianization could free it of its bus shelters.

Ipswich has suffered its share of philistinism in the past but both public and private sectors are showing far greater sensitivity to townscape. It is true that ugly dock buildings shut off much of the river but the restoration of the fine Unitarian Meeting House, built in 1700, and the juxtaposition of two spectacular glass-walled offices of Willis Faber and Dumas, which mirror it, augur well for the future.

Work has just started on a new theatre and this month a building preservation trust has been launched with a £40,000 loan from the borough council—a move which the local civic society would have considered a disgrace a few years ago. Behind the drive for expansion a new quality of life is emerging.

Links with the land still vital

by Leonard Avey

Its agricultural hinterland, which more than anything else has shaped the economic and industrial development of Ipswich over centuries, is still vital to it. Patterns of trade have changed but the town remains the headquarters of one family farm which claims to have the second largest holdings in Europe and to be the fifth in size among the county's animal feed manufacturers. The Ipswich-based farmers' co-operative, Eastern Counties Farmers, with a turnover of more than £50m a year, is Britain's second largest.

The old administrative division of Suffolk in East Angles and West Saxons, marks a change of soil and traditional farming practice. Between it and the sea all is sand and marsh, with stretches of poor heath, typical sheep and barley land with seasonal cattle grazing on the marshes. In the soil is a glacial loam of varying heaviness, a rather flat country diversified by small valleys given over to the growing of wheat, with beans, fodder roots and red clover, the winter fattening of cattle in confinement and the raising of pigs.

That was, at least, the old pattern, before the revolution in farming brought about by the technical changes of the past 30 years, and it was this that shaped the trade of Ipswich to which, particularly, the produce of the inland area was funnelled and through which outside requisites had to pass. By Tudor times the port already had a big export trade in grain to Europe as well as to coastal

destinations from the Thames to the Forth.

The cheap imported grain adversely affected arable farming but suited livestock enterprises. Dairying, once a speciality of north-east Suffolk, revived with a new emphasis, sending liquid milk to London instead of butter and cheese. Pig production took on fresh importance. From Stoke Newington, the main river crossing, the mills expanded along the Ipswich water-front—flour mills, feed mills and oilseed crushers.

The first of the new factories were up-river of the town, the Gipping having been made navigable in 1820. Eventually three firms merged as Fison, Packard and Prentice, later to become the nucleus of the ramified business of Fisons, which has a large plant on the deep-water quay constructed in the 1920s below the old port. Here the manufacture of compound granular fertilizers was further developed.

Millers, both for flour and feed, have come to use much more home-grown grain than they did, and are tending to move their operations away from the parts towards the consuming areas. Mating, on the other hand, stays where the barley is grown and Ipswich is one of the main centres of the trade, with two generations of the Paul family particularly active.

Up-river processing of farm products at one time included tannery and there are still two important plants. One is the best sugar factory, collecting its raw material from most of East Suffolk and parts of North Essex. Sugar beet is an integral part of most crop rotations today on both heavy and light land and, except in years of extreme drought, this factory even has some of the highest average yields in the country.

The other is a large bacon and pig-processing plant belonging to the Harris

group, which supplies the main outlets in eastern England and the North. Though most pigs are now sold under some kind of direct contract, the weekly pig market at Ipswich is still one of the most important in the country. The local cattle trade, however, is not as flourishing as it once was, though still fairly large.

Suffolk during the nineteenth century developed its own breeds of horses, cattle and sheep. The Suffolk sheep has become the most widely used of the Down breeds, especially for crossing, and has spread to most parts of the world. Ipswich is still its flockbook centre, and the annual show and sale of ram lambs is a great occasion for breeders from all parts of Britain and Ireland. High prices are the norm.

Red Poll cattle, also for long recorded and regulated at Ipswich, have dropped out of fashion, and the breeding of Suffolk Poodles, like that of other heavy horses, is now in fewer hands, than of wares, Woodbridge is the official centre of that breed, but Ipswich was until about 1960 its sale centre and the site of the spring stallion show which opens the annual breeding season.

Poodles remain one of the attractions of the Suffolk Show which, like most others, has ceased to be permanent and has settled down on a permanent site—the heathland south-east of Ipswich. For a couple of days in early June it brings together both town and farming communities in a typically English fashion.

Though far from geographically central in the region it serves, Ipswich, despite recent changes in the patterns of agricultural trade, is still the place to go for other services—banking and credit, merchandising, valuations, legal advice and matters concerning the National Farmers' Union at county level. These activities constitute a substantial part of the town's business.



The contrasting architecture of an ancient port. This Tudor country house in Christchurch Park, now a branch museum, is built on the site of the Priory of Holy Trinity. Right: the glass-walled offices of Willis Faber and Dumas.

A militant's nightmare

by Monk Matthew

Industrially, Ipswich is an employer's dream and a militant unionist's nightmare. There has not been one crippling strike this year, nor any other year that anybody can remember. The only recent history of industrial action was the Ransomes & Rapier uprising of 1972.

That year, the 700 employees with their wives and children and an appendage of loyal townfolk marched through the streets in protest.

At the time Ransomes & Rapier belonged to Newton Chambers, whose reaction to a £750,000 loss on a £4,500,000 turnover was to write off the company, jobs and all.

At the eleventh hour the firm was bought by Central and Sherwood, who from a building preservation trust has been launched with a £40,000 loan from the borough council—a move which the local civic society would have considered a disgrace a few years ago. Behind the drive for expansion a new quality of life is emerging.

This is small compared with 1978's expected turnover because R & R has restarted production of giant walking draglines which it dropped in the mid-1960s, and with the world expansion in open cast mining, orders being negotiated by R & R run into nine figures. The first completed dragline, part of a £12m order, is this month being shipped to America.

Although this is a spectacular example, it is representative of the spirit and climate of management and workers in Ipswich manufacturing industry generally, particularly engineering.

Much of the management and many of the directors have come to Ipswich from the Midlands or other industrial centres where industrial relations are rough and tough. They are marked by an appreciation of the workers, and a keenness and zest which sees the numerous industrial associations, federations, branches, societies, seminars and local activities extending from the Ipswich Engineering Society, founded in 1899, and the Suffolk Productivity Association to the Export

ers' Club and the Chamber of Commerce. The town's 75,000 workers include 29,500 women, and although East Anglians are said to be among the lowest paid in the country, there is the inbred attitude to work and management which comes from an agricultural ancestry, which has developed into industry gradually preserving a character which is in contrast to towns centred on heavy, union-dominated industries.

The strength of Ipswich's economy lies in its industry's remarkable diversity. According to the town's jobcentre there are 1,500 employers, more than 1,200 of them employing less than 20 people. Manufacturing employs 30 per cent (23,000–40,000 in engineering) is the biggest group, and although there are four industrial estates of recent origin, old-established firms remain the backbone and reflect the diversity.

The list of these includes Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies (agricultural machinery), Reavell (compressors, part of the CompAir Group), Ransomes & Rapier, Crane (fluid control equipment), BSP International Foundations (piles and pile-driving plants), Delta (M.B.) (non-ferrous metals), Cooke (structural), Pauls & Whites (malsters) and animal feeds), John Player (tobacco), Wm Churchman's cigars, Wm Brown (timber), Fisons (fertilizers), Harris (foods), Phillips & Piper, Wm Pretty, Jaeger (clothing), W. S. Cowell (fine colour printers), Cranfield (flour

millers), Dickson, R. E. H. Kennedy, Tibbenthorn, Titchmarsh & Goodwin, Winch (furniture), Tookes (bakeries for the whole of Suffolk), Rola Celsion, G & M Power Plant (electrical) and the only company which—under directions from its American parent company—pending current takeover by the NEB—is making redundancies: Bull Motors.

All the major companies are producing annual reports which are always "records" over previous years, and the common recurring feature is "exports"—for which Ipswich, with its own expanding port authority and Harwich and Felixstowe docks, both near by, in the mainstream of EEC and other sea traffic, is advantageously placed.

This has seen much of the available space on industrial estates taken by national firms for warehousing. There are four. The oldest, the 30 acres Hadleigh Road Industrial Estate, developed over the past 15 years or so by Taylor Woodrow provides 24 freehold warehouses, factories, Post Office sorting and British Road Service parcels depot. The Ipswich Engineering Group Training premises and an office block.

Ransomes, Sims & Jefferies began their warehousing estate on land adjacent to their own factories about two years ago—30 acres, which about 10 acres has been completed in a first phase. Buildings, from 6,000 to 45,000 sq ft, have all been let, mostly for warehousing with some light industry, at £1.05 a sq ft, and

building starts this month on a second phase which, according to Oxborrow, local estate agents, will start with 28,000 sq ft for letting at £1.30 a sq ft, and this speculative building of similar units will continue.

On the Bass Hill estate, also handled by Oxborrow, nine small buildings from 1,900 to 3,250 sq ft have so far been built and seven are producing annual reports which are always "records" over previous years, and the common recurring feature is "exports"—for which Ipswich, with its own expanding port authority and Harwich and Felixstowe docks, both near by, in the mainstream of EEC and other sea traffic, is advantageously placed.

The Whitehouse Road estate, developed by Ipswich council, covers 90.75 acres.

Construction is the only industry seriously affected by unemployment. Paradoxically, several industries, notably engineering, are being held back for want of skilled workers, and at least two firms are negotiating with the council for houses to accommodate workers they hope to bring in from other areas.

The manager of the Jobcentre, Mr John Thorpe, says: "Because of its great diversity of industries, unemployment was a negligible factor in Ipswich, including school-leavers, until the end of 1972."

"Today there are 3,500 vacancies and only 350 unemployed and a quarter of them are all unemployed come from the building industry, which is the only major industry in Ipswich to have been really hit by the national recession."

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ENTERPRISE EXCELLENCE APTITUDE

Port's success obscured by sailing barge image

by Donald Black

Even the port industry is surprised to learn that Ipswich stands high in the sailing barge image. Its sailing barge image obscures the fact that the port is a cornerstone of the Orwell/Stour complex, which has become second only to London for British cargo traffic.

The West Bank Terminal, on reclaimed land near the head of the Orwell estuary, shows one aspect of how Ipswich has transformed itself from a regional to a national port. Unit load business is concentrated at the West Bank terminal, leaving the Cliff Quay on the opposite bank with more elbow room for conventional cargoes, many of them destined for West Africa and the Middle East.

Containers, through the port last year totalled 54,461, measured in 20ft-long units. That was 43 per cent up on 1975 and this year has seen another rise.

Ipswich cargoes total 2,500,000 tonnes, with an increasing proportion taken by valuable general trade and less by bulk commodities such as fuel. Trailer capacity will go up significantly this December when North Sea Ferries introduces a newly-built ship for its daily service between the West Bank and Europoort, The Netherlands. It is the Norsky, product of a South Korean yard. A British crew is being flown out to bring it to Ipswich.

Ipswich port is neither nationalized nor controlled by private enterprise, but run by a public trust. The old Ipswich Dock Commission came into being in 1852 and within five years had created a 10-acre wharf dock, for many years the biggest in Europe.

Commissioners were mainly councillors and port users, worthy and progressive, always eager to extend and improve the quays. By 1973, however, the system of appointments was thought unsuited to the intensely competitive and specialized transport industry and the commission was superseded by Ipswich Port Authority.

The authority is a more professional port manager, yet more representative of the interests in the port, not least its labour. One member is Mr Peter Partridge, district officer of the Transport and General Workers' Union. The port gives him little trouble.

Mr John Evelyn, chief executive of Ipswich Port Authority, said: "We involve ourselves in new work before it comes to the port and then removes possible areas of disagreement. If we know what to expect, we can anticipate problems."

The system certainly appears to work at Ipswich, where there has not been a strike over any local issue for more than six years. That, moreover, is in a port which is a quarterly meeting as well as a daily service between the West Bank and Europoort. Teams of management and workers travel to Rotterdam, Gothenburg and elsewhere to help to keep the port in touch with the latest trends in shipping.

"When we go abroad we go as one body representing Ipswich", one of the shop

stewards, Mr Robert Peake, said. "We think as a team and find the best deal possible for this port. We believe we are a special workforce—not special in the human sense, but specially trained. Ninety per cent of our men are skilled as drivers of Tugboats and forklifts and in lashing. Our ways compare favourably with other scheme ports. Here a conventional ship can be turned round in two days whereas other ports might take eight. We have kept piecework, which means the faster we go the better it suits ourselves, management and the customers."

Ipswich earnings are good, but they result from flexible working that might not always be appreciated in the big and often bitterly divided ports. Complexities of the dock labour scheme, as Mr Evelyn said, worry people in all ports, especially in East Anglia, where it is regarded as divisive. Even unregistered labour has risked unpopularity by saying so to their union. But Mr Peake said: "When change comes here there will be a smooth transition because we already work well with other employees."

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The need is to make visitors linger

Cecil lives in a hamlet 11 miles from Ipswich. He was once the local poacher but is retired now. He likes to relate how he once entered a field with his snare and the locals tried to catch him.

Creeping in from all directions they met in the middle, but Cecil had vanished. Once more he had outwitted them. He is now part of the furniture in the local thatched public house, where his memory for such tales becomes remarkably active when he has been offered a pint of his favourite brew laced with gin.

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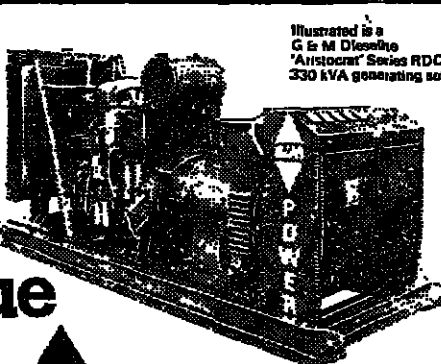
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Why the pitmen said no to a tailor-made gateway out of confrontation

On collision course now as the miners plunge the pay policy into darkness

The miners' vote to reject the obvious way out of a pay confrontation shatters all the assumptions about wage restraint and casts doubt on the ability of the Government to retain its "special relationship" with the trade union movement.

Rarely can a union president have had such an unappealing task as that faced by Mr Joe Gormley yesterday. He had to admit that his entire political strategy, based on defusing coalfield unrest through a self-financing productivity deal, had failed.

The president of the National Union of Mineworkers has espoused the cause of production bonuses since elected to office, and the second, humiliating, defeat of his policies at the hands of the left must give rise to serious anxiety about the ability of the Cabinet to win through this critical period.

The figures speak for themselves. In the militant coalfields, miners have responded overwhelmingly to their area leaders' call to reject pit incentives in favour of a battle over their basic wage. They have rejected the recommendations of the executive committee of the NUM to accept the argument that wages should be directly linked to output.

All this comes at a time of falling production in the mines. Despite big pay rises won after the convulsive stoppages of 1972 and 1974, the men have not increased output in line with the ambitious targets set by the tripartite Plan for Coal agreed by ministers, the National Coal Board and the unions in 1974.

Massive investment in the pits, making

the United Kingdom coal industry probably the most mechanised advanced in the world, has been accompanied by falling output.

Production in the first 29 weeks of the Coal Board's financial year starting on April 1 was 54,686,000 tons. For the comparable period last year it was 55,910,000 tons. In the last week for which figures are available, ending October 15, output totalled 2,218,000 tons by comparison with 2,224,000 in 1976. Output per man-shift has also steadily declined, from 44.8 cwt in 1975 to 43.6 last year and 42 cwt at the last tally.

Stocks of coal at the pithead and inside the gauging of power stations are down substantially to just below 30 million tons, partly because of falling productivity. And the downward trend in production suggests that these reserves will be depleted faster than is normal at the beginning of winter.

Against this background, the men have chosen to say "no" to the tailor-made gateway out of a confrontation. Quite apart from the emotive arguments of whether greater effort at the face would put "blood on the coal", the political considerations surrounding their wages cannot have been ignored by miners in the ballot.

In the militant areas, the propaganda effort was directed away from the acceptable method of getting more money through increasing output. This was dismissed as "paying for your own wage increase". It was directed instead towards the pay claim, which inevitably brings in

its train a conflict with the TUC and the Government.

Such a fundamental break in the logic of wage restraint is bound to have wide repercussions in the Labour movement. It can only strengthen the resolve of those groups—such as the firemen, the train drivers, the "dirty jobs" town hall employees and lorry drivers—who are looking for a plausible way through the Government's 10 per cent limit.

The Cabinet is therefore faced with a challenge to its incomes policy founded not only in the miners' mistrust of "piecework" but in a highly-organized political threat to its last electoral trump card—the link with moderate union leaders that has delivered consent to rule over the past two years.

This will read across to other sectors of employment, and politically-sensitive bodies like the policy-making national committee of the engineering workers' union that meets in two weeks' time will not be slow to pick up the electric pace of events.

The first mining festival is to be held in Blackpool this weekend, to celebrate 30 years of nationalisation of the industry. It is billed as the social event of the year, with more fireworks on Guy Fawkes day than the Queen had for her jubilee celebrations. If events follow the precedent of recent years, it will be fireworks for the miners, and candles for the rest.

Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

The Statistics of Militancy

Area	Total	"YES" (%)	"NO" (%)
Yorkshire	47,644	11,080 (23)	36,564 (76)
Nottinghamshire	25,250	15,208 (60)	10,042 (34)
South Wales	21,572	3,643 (17)	17,929 (83)
Officials and Staff	14,369	11,849 (82)	2,520 (17)
Durham	13,433	8,449 (63)	4,984 (37)
Scotland	13,154	2,255 (17)	10,899 (83)
Midlands	11,182	6,019 (54)	5,163 (46)
Derbyshire	9,069	3,419 (37)	5,650 (62)
North-Western	7,422	4,045 (54)	3,377 (45)
Northumberland	5,863	3,819 (65)	2,044 (35)
Durham Mechanics	5,036	3,806 (75)	1,230 (24)
Scottish Engineers	4,108	1,003 (24)	3,105 (75)
Power Group No. 1	3,973	3,016 (76)	957 (24)
Cokefitters	3,427	2,043 (59)	1,384 (40)
South Derbyshire	2,687	1,912 (71)	775 (29)
Leicestershire	2,603	1,837 (70)	766 (29)
Kent	2,201	632 (28)	1,569 (71)
Northumberland Mechs	1,902	1,523 (80)	379 (20)
Cumberland	755	362 (48)	393 (52)
Power Group 2	1,279	818 (64)	461 (36)
North Wales	889	597 (67)	292 (33)
Durham Engineers	717	556 (79)	161 (21)
Total	198,535	87,901 (44)	110,634 (55)

* Area "NO" votes.

Bernard Levin

History's verdict: keep the persecutor of historians out of Britain

I have devoted a good deal of attention, one way and another, to the visits to this country of representatives of the Soviet Union and her empire. Among the worst cases are those of Shelepin, then chief extirpator of the rights of Soviet workers, fawned over by Mr. Len Murray and other TUC leaders, Boris Ponomarev, one of the most brutal of all Soviet tyrants, honoured guest of the Labour Party's National Executive, and Bohuslav Chmoupek, Quisling "Foreign Minister" of Czechoslovakia, officially invited by the British Government.

Sometimes these visits are justified on grounds of reason or reasonableness. It is said that they are the fruits of an agreed exchange of visitors, and the British hosts are not in a position to exclude particular individuals, however vile or even criminal their record (and all three of the ones I have mentioned above certainly have such histories). But there is a man whose record is such that, though one or more of the standard excuses may be offered for his presence, he has so violated all the canons of acceptability that his being here, under whatever auspices, is inexcusable.

His name is Václav Král; he is here under an exchange agreement between the British Academy and an equivalent—of rather a ghostly sort—representing such an equivalent in Czechoslovakia. He is an historian, and he is also a falsifier of history and of historical documents alike, and he is an instrument of repression against Czech scholars. His real job, indeed, can be properly described as that of a persecutor; what is more, he uses his powers not only on behalf of his master, but for his own private ends, pursuing those who have not followed the Party line with no greater vigour than the who have had the temerity to draw attention to shortcomings in his own work.

Král's activities as an historian have been largely confined to the past, and his official Soviet line on the 1938 Munich agreement and the subsequent Nazi seizure of Czechoslovakia, his thesis, in book after book, being that the heroic Soviet Union was ready and eager to come to the aid of Czechoslovakia but was prevented from doing so by the imperialists of Britain and France. For his unswerving devotion to his Soviet master, he has been amply rewarded; not only has he held high official academic posts, and had his articles and books sponsored and published on a massive scale, but he has been given sole access to historical files and archives, this privilege he has doubly abused, by falsification or suppression of the material, and by preventing other historians from pursuing their own research in the same areas. He has, I may say, carried his habit of doctoring the records to Britain; in a recent work based on earlier research in the Public Record Office (his present visit to Britain is by no means his first, though I trust it will be his last) he altered one part of a crucial letter and omitted another, vital, part, knowing, after all that he was safe from criticism in Czech publications. (His forgery was exposed in the TLS by J. W. Bruegel, but that review will not be seen in Czechoslovakia.)

The lengths to which Král goes in his vindictive attacks on scholars in his own country who have attempted to correct his falsifications may be measured by the controversy he had with one of the editors of the Czech history magazine *Past and Present*. Emanuel Mandler, in 1963, Král published a book glorifying the 1948 Soviet seizure of Czechoslovakia, and Mandler criticized Král's treatment of the documents; considering that this was four years before the "Czech Spring" it is clear that Mandler's criticisms must have been of the mildest, and could certainly not have included any denunciation or even question-

ing of the Soviet coup; yet Král, who by then was Director of the Institute of History for European Socialist Countries, forced Mandler's resignation in revenge. But Král's corruption as a historian is the lesser of the two crimes which, in effect, constitute his entire professional life. The greater lies in his role as chief enforcer of the Soviet line, the vicious persecution of honest Czech historians.

During the brief Dubcek regime of 1968, Král, when he saw which way the wind was blowing, resigned the directorship of his institute, thus putting himself in a position to thrive after the inevitable suppression by the Soviet Union of Czech liberation movement. The institute, closed in the wake of the imperialist invasion of Czechoslovakia, was reopened (under the more appropriate title of the Czechoslovak-Soviet Institute) shortly afterwards, with the obedient and useful Král in control as director of its "body"; he was also appointed head of the Department of Czechoslovak History at Charles University in Prague, some of the department's members having attempted, during the Dubcek era, to tell some of the truth about their subject and thus shown that they needed somebody over them who was fully aware of the inappropriateness of any such action.

In 1970, the purge of Král's former colleagues at the historical institute began. Král led it, driving out of academic life no fewer than twenty Czech historians, many of whom are now employed as labourers or in other menial occupations. Not only has Král acted as chief persecutor during the purge; he has also published, as required, pamphlets denouncing the victims.

Král's zeal has at times carried him even further than the Party line has demanded. In 1972, for instance, at a conference of historians, he declared that the brutal purges of the 1950s did not go far enough, because some "bourgeois" historians stood, to help bring about the events of 1968; he appears to be working to destroy the entire present generation of Czech historians, and has gone quite a long way towards his goal, to judge from the fact that by 1975, at the International Congress of Historical Sciences held in San Francisco, a list was produced of no fewer than 145 historians in Czechoslovakia undergoing some form of persecution. (There were 27 historians among the first wave of signatories of Charter 77.)

And yet this scoundrel, a traitor alike to his country, his calling and his colleagues, is the guest of academe in Britain, comes and goes here, is given the run of British historical records (and proscribes them to his political purpose), and no doubt rubs shoulders with honourable scholars from this country and others.

There is a case—I have frequently cast doubt on its ultimate validity, but I recognize its strength—for arguing that exchanges of professional, artistic and other visitors between free and unfree countries benefits the latter at least in the long run. There is also a case for the argument that governments, and to a lesser extent quasi-public or altogether unpublic bodies of international standing, should not be too scrupulous about whom they invite from tyrannical nations. But there is surely no case for entertaining a man like Václav Král, treating him as a genuine historian, and—the final insult to the men and women he has hounded—recognizing him as a representative of Czechoslovak academic life. If the body which acts as his host is unable, because of its exchange agreement with Czechoslovakia or the Soviet Union, to refuse to have him here, the Government should, next time he attempts his intention of visiting Britain, refuse him entry.

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The last-minute drama that made Leo Amery the brains behind the Balfour Declaration

November 2 is a red letter day in the Jewish calendar—but how red? The argument about the importance of the Balfour Declaration to the progress of Zionism and the development of Israel has been going on for the past 60 years.

On November 2, 1917, the then British Foreign Secretary, Lord Balfour, who, as Arthur James Balfour, had been Tory Prime Minister some 15 years earlier, sent a brief note to Lord Rothschild:

Foreign Office, November 2nd, 1917. Dear Lord Rothschild: I have much pleasure in conveying to you, on behalf of His Majesty's Government, the following declaration of sympathy with Jewish Zionist aspirations which has been submitted to, and approved by, the Cabinet. His Majesty's Government view with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people, and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this object, it being clearly understood that nothing shall be done which may prejudice the civil and religious rights of existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine, or the rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country. Should you be grateful if you would bring this declaration to the knowledge of the Zionist Federation. Yours Arthur Balfour.

The letter is typed on an ancient typewriter, even for that time. "Yours" and "Arthur Balfour" are added in longhand, with "Yours" sporting a blob instead of an S. The original of this letter was sent by the late Lord Rothschild to the British Museum. After the dispatch of this note, the world was never the same again.

I quoted the document verbatim because it belongs to the category of documents that have been killed by their popularity. Everybody knows about the Balfour Declaration, but few have ever read it in its complete text.

One thing has to be said before we embark upon the text itself. Britain had a coalition government at the time, the British always have one during a major war—and David Lloyd George was a very strong Prime Minister. Without his full support and backing, Balfour could never have written his epistle to Rothschild—whether he was a Zionist or not, and no matter how good his knowledge of the Bible was.

It is not clear whether the declaration had intended to convey its text to one of those classic compromises which leave ample room for various interpretations (shades of Dr Henry Kissinger). Historians and poli-



Left, Leo Amery: "sheer agony" as the War Cabinet meet. Right, Balfour with Lloyd George: they were not sure what the declaration meant.

ticians, scholars and biographers, have since dealt with this text according to taste, as it were. The argument is endless. In fact, Balfour himself (he died in 1930) and Lloyd George (who died in 1945) were not sure what their declaration meant, though both are on record as saying that they were proud of it.

No document in the annals of modern history has been so much analysed, dissected, interpreted, praised, abused, condemned and celebrated as the Balfour Declaration. Yet, we shall never know for sure whether Balfour had in mind a Jewish state. And if not, what did he have in mind?

There is no doubt that the Balfour Declaration—and the British Mandate over Palestine, granted at San Remo in 1920 by the League of Nations—gave Zionism a new impetus and speeded up the development of the country "from an arid wasteland into a blossoming garden", as Churchill put it. Incidentally, here was another Anglo-Zionist who supported the Balfour Declaration,

and he was perhaps the greatest of them all.

But it was not a beginning. In Jewish mythology, the Messiah was born on the day the Temple was destroyed. The return to Zion is part of the Jewish faith. More realistically, the first Jewish colonies were not sure what their declaration meant, though both are on record as saying that they were proud of it.

In fact, the declaration itself acknowledged the existence of a Zionist Federation; Lord Rothschild was asked to convey the declaration to the ZF. To say that the Balfour Declaration was a beginning is, therefore, wrong.

On the other, it was vitally important for the Zionists to have the openly declared good will of His Majesty's Government in 1917. Large parts of the world map were red at that time—the British Empire was still intact. To Jews everywhere, the declaration was a dream come true.

But soon the trouble started.

We had not only Lloyd George and Balfour, Churchill and Ormsby-Gore, but also Neville Chamberlain and Malcolm MacDonald, Bevin and Attlee.

Thus, in this anniversary year of the Balfour Declaration, we must reserve a sense of proportion in our assessments.

This brings me to the real author of the Balfour Declaration, the man who actually wrote that text. Over the years, a name would be suggested, and the suggestion would be followed by a denial or disclaimer. I discovered the true author in a remarkable interview with the late Leopold Amery, who used to be Secretary to the War Cabinet in the final draft of a declaration relating to Palestine, Zionism and Jews in general was to have been approved. But we had no text. The idea was there all right, but it was not finally formulated. For weeks we had arguments, quarrels, denials, confirmations, consultations, secret chats with various interested parties. We knew what we wanted, roughly.

The skeleton was there, as was, but there was no flesh upon it. There was nothing the Prime Minister could put before the Cabinet. And the hands of the clock moved forward mercilessly, relentlessly. We Zionists knew quite well that, if we did not have a decision on an agreed text that day, it might drag on for another few weeks, and who knows? . . . But we made no progress with the text.

Forty-five minutes left. It was truly dramatic. The room was full of tension. You could feel it in the air. You could cut it with a knife. Proposals and counter-proposals chased each other in the bewildering circle. Go-betweens kept on telephoning. They were anxious, of course. My desk was full of pieces of paper—discarded formulae. I kept on composing texts and tearing them up. I must have written five, or possibly six. None of them was any good for our purpose, and none of them satisfied their author—poor me. No inspiration. Have you gone through an experience of trying to formulate something without inspiration? It can be sheer agony.

The more my English improved, the worse the texts became. . . . But I had to hurry. There were only 12 minutes left. Two minutes.

Members of the Cabinet began to drift into my room, to see whether I had the text ready. And there I was, without a text. I felt that none of them could help, though they all knew what was required. They all talked together—Zionists, non-Zionists, anti-Zionists. You see, Zionism has always been an emotive subject. It still is.

Well, I made a last desperate effort on the back of that old memo. I suddenly had a brainwave. Sometimes, when time is short, something turns up. I wrote a new text, starting from scratch. Lloyd George came up, glanced at it and exclaimed: "Yes, that's it." Balfour had a look and nodded. Milner and Smuts read the brand new text together and dissolved in smiles. They were both Zionists, and both of them felt that the declaration must be approved on that day.

The meeting of the Cabinet started, and that famous text was approved without much argument. In fact, they made no changes in my text whatsoever. And so I became the actual author of the Balfour Declaration. The copyright will expire in 1987.

It did, indeed, expire 10 years ago.

S. J. Goldsmith

THE TIMES DIARY/PHS

Of larrikins and old coots and sleepy herrings

Compared to other parliaments modelled on Westminster our House of Commons is occupied by a nubby pambly for when it comes to unparliamentary expressions.

The latest volume of *The Table, the Journal* of the Society of Clerks-at-the-Table in the Commonwealth Parliaments, lists the disallowed expressions of 1976. As you might expect, Australia (with eight Parliaments) comes top, with New Zealand close behind.

Ignore the obvious ones, like bastard, blackmailer, blood-sucker, crook, liar. For me, the local tang comes through in phrases like "diatribe of crap" (Victoria), "the larrikin for South Perth" (Western Australia), "the old giggling Gertie Opposition Whip" (New South Wales), "shut your mouth, you white-haired old mug" (Queensland), and "let me put it in monosyllables" (St Lucia).

The New Zealand crowd is pungent: "bundle of bald-headed old coots"; "effeminate gis-

gles"; "he has just run out of fingers" (of a Member confused in his counting); "old daddies" "political morons"; "the Red Reverend, representative in this country of the Communist Party"; "racist".

Intriguing is the entry from Zambia—"they are sleeping like herrings in tomato sauce", coming from the same assembly where the Speaker ruled that to call someone "Genghis Khan" was unparliamentary.

There is something delicately insulting about "he has improved on that, because he is not telling lies" (New South Wales) and "I withdraw the word vicious, but maybe malicious might be better" (St Lucia).

We are left wondering which Government office was "the Wee Willie Winkie Department" (New Zealand). There is something more definite about "thug", "Judas", "Jew-hater", "guttersnipe", "loud-mouth", "scab" and "ratbag". "That is an untruth", ruled out of order in New South Wales, sounds positively polite by comparison.

Something daring, the continental

What (or indeed, who) brings together Europe, music and yachting? You guessed, my old friend Edward Heath. Or, to put it another way, what has the Black Dyke Mills Brass Band got in common with a track (one out of Nine—get it?) entitled Morningcloud conducted by Maestro Heath?

It is, of course, a long playing record, to be released on November 19 by RCA (price £2.49) and entitled *European Brass*. It is not, as business readers might suppose, a tale of German and Frenchackers, but music for brass by nine different composers with the British (in the loosest sense) offering being the aforementioned track, the score for which was specially composed for Mr Heath by Robert Farnon.

Mr Heath is guest conductor of the Band and when he launched the record last night made it clear that he rather liked brass bands. The BDMBS (for short) has 20 times won the title of premier brass band in Britain and represents the cloth manufacturing company John Foster and Son, who export lots of super mohair to Europe. So the company thought it ought to put something back. The following is Leo Amery's story in his own words, mostly. You see, long before I be-

More on the battling bards

Norman Mailer has fought bouts of fistfists at parties before the one I reported in the Diary last week. Mrs Mailer, who is a blunderer, did at him, and struck him vehemently on the jaw. The two bards battered and batted each other for some time before they could be separated by un-sporting publishers.

Personally I'd prefer a warning of when they're about to switch on

Leading the ranting on the other side is Sir John Gullihm Scott, the cathedral's administrator. And thereby hangs another irony.

He is unrepentant. He does not believe the door-to-door Poppy sales will be affected by the bring and buys and coffee mornings of the cathedral lovers. I hope both sides win.

Sweet charity turns sour

Old soldiers are ranting their sabres in Sussex this week. It is all because the Chichester diocese, which takes in all the county, has chosen Poppy Week to hold fund-raising events in its 400 parishes to help restore the 900-year-old Chichester cathedral.

Leading the ranting for the Royal British Legion is Major-General Henry Lister, DSO, aged 70, president of the Sussex branch. He says there is a gentleman's agreement throughout the realm whereby other charities do not poach on Poppy Week preserves.

Ironically, the general belongs to the Friends of Chichester cathedral, who help to raise cash for the noble edifice.

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A stuffed owl has disappeared from an exhibition in Nottingham's Victoria shopping centre. The show is devoted to vanishing wildlife.

Marriage guidance at the gallery

If you are tiring of the great art debates, why not involve yourself in the other one re-erupting at the National Gallery? The motion is: who are the couple in "The Arncliffe Marriage" by Jan van Eyck.

Is it the eponymous Italian merchant and his better half? Or is it Jan and spouse? Or is Jan merely one of the two figures reflected in the famous convex mirror? The lady looks pregnant, but could it not be the fuller fashions of the time? And if she is expecting, could the child she is carrying be Solomon in pre-glory days?

That last theory is a new one on me, but it is put forward in all seriousness by Zdzislaw Kapinski, who emphatically forbids that the picture shows David and Bathsheba.

In the pamphlet you get at the Jan van Eyck exhibition—the latest of the gallery's excellent Pamphlets in Focus shows—Aislinn Smith, one of the deputy keepers, dissects that painting about a marriage ceremony at its. His fascinating theory, supported by many clues, is that it is about the whole marital relationship—be-trothal, marriage and domesticity.

It took a perspicacious young lady from the press office to make me realize that the dog in the foreground is not reflected in the mirror. The debate continues, but now with a new, canine slant.

Sir Emile Littler, the theatrical impresario, has sent me such a devastatingly logical suggestion that I feel I must share its benefits with you. Horologists are always telling us, he says, that it is damaging to turn the hands of clocks and watches backwards and yet, the week before last, with the ending of 1977, the press and television were exhorting us to do precisely that. World we did better advised, he wonders, to advance all chronometers eleven hours? So grateful to Sir Emile and I that I may even stifle my instinctive antagonism towards Jesus Christ Supernazar at his Palace Theatre and part with good money at the box office.

Handwritten signature: J.P. 10/1/50



New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE MINERS' NO

It had begun to look deceptively easy, getting back to orderly collective bargaining after two years of restraints. Some productivity arrangements might have seemed a little dubious, but at least the decencies were being observed. But the miners' ball shows how insecure were the hopes raised by Ford, Leyland and the police. Yesterday's rejection of the productivity scheme throws the miners' union back on the inordinately large pay claim adopted by its annual conference last summer. If the plan had been accepted, with the substantial rewards it involved, the claim would never have been seriously pressed. It included pay increases of 90 per cent for face workers and a breach of the twelve-month rule. If the miners are able to lay hands on even half of what they demand, the hope of general moderation in pay settlements will be faint.

For some opponents of the scheme, the opportunity to vanquish the last remnants of official wage restraint was as strong an incentive as any effect it might have had within the industry itself. Most of those who voted must have given less weight to political considerations, though their actions were no doubt influenced by the energetic and adroit campaign mounted by the left wing on the union. If they voted as they did mainly out of suspicion of the scheme, the ballot result would not necessarily indicate readiness to press the pay claim to the utmost.

Productivity schemes providing effective incentives to each pit or coal face easily evoke fears of the old piecework system which encouraged a man to break his health and disregard safety precautions for the sake of a bonus. The proposed

arrangement minimized these dangers. But by its nature it would have brought greater rewards to some than to others, and exact benefits could not be predicted in advance. Opponents took advantage of these uncertainties to claim that the gains, represented as amounting to about 30 per cent, would be negligible. In fact it is more likely that they would have been much greater than the supposed self-financing nature of the plan would have justified. Many feared that the bargaining strength of their union would be reduced as local factors became more important. Even some prominent moderates like Mr Len Clarke opposed the exact details of the plan while accepting the principle.

But it would be unrealistic to put too much weight on these factors. The vote went broadly in line with the political balance of each area, and every miner as he voted must have known very well that rejection would bring the 90 per cent claim to life. The ballot is clear evidence that the union is continuing to grow more militant. A success of this kind adds further conviction to the claims of the left. Mr Gormley, no militant, declared immediately after the result was announced that he would raise no more productivity proposals and that 10 per cent went nowhere towards solving the industry's problems.

That is bargaining talk, of course, and it remains to be seen whether, between 10 and 90 per cent, Mr Gormley has fixed his eye. The bargaining over this claim is sure to be bitter and complex. The TUC will this time be exerting its official pressure on the side of the Government (which, if there is a strike,

means that the miners cannot count on as much help from sympathetic fellow-unionists as they had in 1972 and 1974). Mr Callaghan is faced with the dilemma of accepting a destructive violation of the pay guidelines, or of adopting a stance uncomfortably reminiscent of that of Mr Heath. The guidelines are not mandatory, of course, but a gross defiance of them would deeply affect all the bargaining yet to come in a season that has scarcely begun.

The force of the miners' claim rests entirely on their industrial strength. The inflation that they fuelled has robbed them of some of the gains they grabbed in 1974, but they are still among the leaders in industrial pay rates, and the industry faces no recruitment problems. The Coal Board is heavily burdened with costly new projects and is likely to make a loss this year. But coal retains a price advantage over oil, and the economic and environmental advantages of developing our most important domestic fuel resource remain overwhelming.

But even the miners are not exempt from the economic constraints that apply to every other group of workers. Any wage increase that they exact must be fully passed on into the price of coal: there can be no question of the Government's financing it. The collapse of hopes for the productivity increases on which the NCB's huge investment plans are based must make its reappraisal necessary. Defeat, if not abandonment, of some proposals must be considered. The miners' actions cannot rob coal of its economic importance, but they must be taken fully into account as a factor limiting the pace and scale of its development.

IT WOULD BE BETTER TO STAY

The decision of the United States to leave the International Labour Organization, one of the main institutions in the United Nations system, comes in spite of pleas for it to stay in from Britain and other industrialized countries, and in spite of doubts in the State Department about the wisdom of the step. For the ILO itself, the results will be dramatic. The organization will lose a quarter of its annual budget—the American contribution—and will have to make cuts of some 20 million dollars in its activities.

Originally founded in 1919, the ILO is unusual for being the only international organization which brings together employers, workers and governments. When it meets at its headquarters in Geneva, delegations from each of its 135 members come in three parts and, in theory at least, each part acts independently of the others. Together they have produced a long list of conventions and recommendations on different aspects of relations between employer and employee. Not all of them have been fully complied with by any means, but there is no question that they have influenced legislation in a large number of countries. In Britain, for instance, legislation in the past few years on such subjects as maritime employment, arbitrary dismissal and equal pay has taken account of conventions adopted by the ILO.

American dissatisfaction with the ILO is expressed most strongly by the AFL/CIO, the main union grouping in the United States, and has been brewing for several years. In 1970 the United States cut off

its contributions to the ILO for a time because of complaints that it was coming too much under the influence of the Soviet Union and other communist countries. The latest crisis came to a head in November, 1975, when Dr Kissinger, then Secretary of State, wrote a letter to the ILO giving the statutory two years' notice of the United States' intention of withdrawing.

His letter made four complaints about the ILO. He criticized the politicization of the organization, reflected in a resolution adopted in 1974 which criticized Israel for its treatment of the Arabs in the occupied territories. He accused the ILO of being selective in the countries it censured for the violation of human rights. He argued that the increasing membership of developing countries, and the presence of the communist countries, the principle of tripartite representation was being eroded, because groups supposed to represent workers or employers voted the way their governments told them. Finally, he said that due process was being abandoned because of disregard for the ILO's own conciliation procedures, seen as a way of filtering out political issues.

Many other delegations, not least the CBI and the TUC in Britain, agree with much of the American case. But they argue, with some reason, that the best way to deal with the ILO's shortcomings is not to turn one's back and walk out: reforms should be carried out from within. They are also concerned that the

American walkout will weaken the case for a "western" approach to employment problems, particularly at a time when the ILO is giving most of its attention to the countries of the developing world. They tried to influence their counterparts in the United States, but without success. When it came to the point, the AFL/CIO and the United States Chamber of Commerce were both in favour of withdrawal, and they overrode objections from the State Department when the issue was brought before President Carter. The decision was an unfortunate one, and it is to be hoped that the Americans will change their minds before too long and return to the ILO. The organization, after all, reflects the world as it is, like it or not, and it has even shown some response to American complaints. Since the letter from Dr Kissinger there have been no resounding political resolutions of the sort that the Americans, and others, object to—a sign that strong words, spoken judiciously by a country that wields the influence of the United States, can have their effect. At a time when the Americans are showing more concern than ever before for the developing world, as well as for human rights, it is strange that they should walk out of an organization that is very much involved in both. At one time, there was similar pressure for them to leave the United Nations itself, because of frustration with the Third World, but it was resisted. It is a pity they have not taken the same line over the ILO.

Mr Stewart-Moore is entitled to his opinion but he is in no way speaking for the tobacco industry, certainly not for Imperial Tobacco Limited. Further, his letter is inaccurate when he suggests that smokers were being encouraged to move away from low tar smoking. Our advertising copy for the Wills brand President had been designed to do exactly what we understood from Dr Owen, when he was Minister of Health and Social Security, the Government wanted us to do, i.e. to use our brand switching powers to lead smokers down the tar scale. We have never as a company suggested that anybody should move up the scale.

Mr Stewart-Moore is also incorrect when he states that his is the only company that has tested both NSM and Cytrel. We have thoroughly tested both materials and chose to market only products containing NSM. Yours faithfully, S. E. ARNOLD, Secretary, Imperial Tobacco Limited, Lombard Street, London E.C.4, November 1.

We must make it clear to South Africa that a failure to advance the political and economic position of the Africans would be contrary to our joint interests and would play into the hands of the Soviet Union. But let us do this in a manner which is constructive and statesmanlike, and humble in the sense that we cannot dictate the precise nature of the solution. Yours faithfully, RICHARD LUCE, Joint Secretary, Conservative Foreign Affairs Committee, House of Commons.

Coeducation at Cambridge

From Mr Nicholas Tyndall
Sir, Women at Jesus (Letter, October 27) will be nothing new, for the college was previously the nursery of St Radegund. How appropriate it would now be for the college to revert to its original name of The College of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St John the Evangelist and the Glorious Virgin St Radegund. Let us hope history will not repeat itself, for apparently discipline in the nursery became more and more lax till only two nuns were left and one of those had a bad reputation! Yours faithfully, NICHOLAS TYNDALL, 22 Hillmorton Road, Rugby, Warwickshire.

The law and race discrimination

From Mr Mark Bonham Carter

Sir, There is room for serious and genuine debate on the limits of legislative competence, and on the extent to which the law can be usefully employed to tackle social problems. One such area is race relations and there are grounds for scepticism about the effectiveness of the law in this field in the US and the UK. The debate was not seriously joined by Mr Butt in his article about the somewhat bizarre and sensational heading "Immigration and racialism: the monsters are just waiting to fight" (October 27). He does not appear to be familiar with the legislation in question, with the reports of the Race Relations Board, nor with the studies of PEP which have surveyed on two separate occasions the extent of the discrimination which the law is intended to check.

Legislation on incitement to racial hatred is a much more debatable topic about which I personally have doubts, particularly in its present form. But it must be pointed out, not for the first time, that this was never a matter for the Race Relations Board, nor is it now a responsibility of the Commission for Racial Equality. It was and is a matter for the police and the Attorney-General.

Mr Butt asks us to believe that race relations has become a danger because it has been built up "over several decades by the hegemony of 'liberal' opinion". Discrimination against minorities, racial prejudice and bad race relations are not confined to this country nor to the present day. One need look no further than the studies of the US, Northern Ireland or South Africa. I find it difficult to believe that Mr Butt thinks that it was the hegemony of "liberal" opinion which produced anti-Semitism and the concentration camps in Nazi Germany, or the discrimination of the blacks in the US, discrimination against Catholics in Northern Ireland or the present policies of the South African Government.

He is of course right when he says that good race relations can only be achieved by encouraging each man's sense of his duty to other men. But how is this to be achieved? Mr Butt offers no answer, not least because he has not attempted to imagine, still less to achieve, the consequences of consistent and substantial discrimination on the individuals or groups who are its victims. The evidence at our disposal indicates fairly conclusively that if things are left alone, they get worse, and that in race relations, policy of laissez-faire merely helps to establish and entrench discriminatory practices.

Race relations in this country are not wholly bad. There are a number of symptoms of change for the better though these naturally do not receive as much publicity as "the bad news". What is indubitable is that we have not kept up with expectations of those born in this country or wholly or largely educated here, whose parents emigrated from the Caribbean or the sub-continent of India. To meet these expectations not less, but more needs to be done as was recommended by the CPRS report, which, if I were to use Mr Butt's highly coloured language, would say was suppressed. What does not help to avert the dangers Mr Butt foresees is an article such as his. Yours faithfully, MARK BONHAM CARTER, 49 Victoria Road, W8, October 31.

Tobacco substitutes

From Mr S. E. Arnold

Sir, In his letter published on October 28 the Chairman of Gallaher Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of the American company, American Brands Inc, said, and I quote: "The tobacco industry must take a large part of the blame" for the disappointing performance of substitutes.

Mr Stewart-Moore is entitled to his opinion but he is in no way speaking for the tobacco industry, certainly not for Imperial Tobacco Limited. Further, his letter is inaccurate when he suggests that smokers were being encouraged to move away from low tar smoking. Our advertising copy for the Wills brand President had been designed to do exactly what we understood from Dr Owen, when he was Minister of Health and Social Security, the Government wanted us to do, i.e. to use our brand switching powers to lead smokers down the tar scale. We have never as a company suggested that anybody should move up the scale.

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German extremists

From Mr Allan Yabraes

Sir, An observer on the scene likes to conclude that your letter (October 19) "A good day for the Germans" without caring for the long, laborious course you took to reach it. The effect is that of giving one and a half cheers for German democracy—which would be condescending and unfair. How many of your readers can guess from your hundreds of words on a German centre, hard beset by left and right, this fact: that neither of the latter extremes has elected a single member of Parliament in years? Yours sincerely, ALLAN YABRAES, 7 Pregel Strasse, Bonn, Germany, October 21.

The revaluation of sterling

From Mr Rowland J. Gee

Sir, The attitude of the CBI towards a strong pound is frankly defeatist and negative.

Just for how long will they think that a weak currency automatically generates sales rather than the emphasis being on good products produced well, on time and up to date in terms of design? Do they think that fine companies, in our own field, such as Burberry's, Aquascutum and Daks set abroad so successfully because the pound is weak and that if it appreciated by 5 per cent sales would suffer? Nonsense.

This country's experience of excellent imported luxury goods from West Germany and Japan totally puts paid to their argument.

Rather than whine at the Government they should preach to manufacturing industry to technically improve their output and productive performance so that it equals the standard of foreign goods, then we can be proud of an equally strong currency. Yours faithfully, ROWLAND J. GEE, Director, Cecil Gee International, 45 Shaftesbury Avenue, W1, November 1.

Buying U S securities

From Mr Andrew Dalton

Sir, Mr Healey may boast of the tax cuts announced last Wednesday but his mismanagement of the proceedings in the foreign exchange market, which culminated in the revaluation of sterling by 4.1 per cent today (October 31), is amazing. For the last nine months, almost alone among major central banks, the Bank of England has been supporting the United States dollar. In the first nine months of this year foreigners bought almost \$17 thousand million worth of United States Government Securities, but the major foreign buyer was no OPEC country but the United Kingdom. During the first seven months of this year (data is not yet available for August and September) the Bank of England bought \$5.1 thousand million of United States Government Securities, nearly 46 per cent of all foreign net purchases.

These British purchases were nearly twice as much as the purchases by all of OPEC put together and in July alone this country bought \$1 thousand million of the \$1.4 thousand million acquired by foreign accounts. Not content with this, our own budget deficit the Government has been running at a substantial proportion of the United States deficit also.

Composers' rights

From the Chairman of the General Council, Performing Right Society

Sir, It may well be, as suggested by Mr Clement Freud and others (October 29), that the company law rules about disclosure of information to shareholders require amendment but there is no need to apologise for their criticism of the Council of the Performing Right Society, if the full facts are understood.

The PRS members entitled to vote are those whose royalties from the Society have reached a certain level—and this level is published. The disclosure of the names of voting members therefore involves divulging the names of those members who have, and more particularly, those who have not, achieved a known level of financial success.

The member named in Mr Freud's letter—Mr Trevor Lytleton—requested a list of the voting members. He was informed that his request would be considered at the next meeting of the General Council but he did not wait for this to happen: he applied at once to the High Court for an Order that the list be furnished to him. His application was refused by a Registrar of the Court. Mr Lytleton then appealed to a Judge who reversed the Registrar. In the light of these differences of judicial opinion, and following counsel's advice, the PRS Council wishes to obtain an authoritative ruling from the Court of Appeal and this appeal is now pending. In a paid advertisement in your newspaper on September 21, 1977, Mr Lytleton announced that he would not contest the appeal. The decision to appeal was taken on the issue of safeguarding confidentiality in respect of members' professional earnings. It was not taken to prevent Mr Lytleton (or any other member) from lobbying the voting members; indeed the Council itself circulated to the voting members two communications from Mr Lytleton prior to the Society's annual general meeting in June. Moreover, on that occasion an opportunity was given to non-voting members to make their views known; and Mr Lytleton was among those who spoke. When his resolutions were then put to the vote they were totally rejected, without even finding a second.

The letter from Mr Freud and others also refers to the Society's 1976 administration expenses of £2.9 million. This represents 13.6 per cent of the Society's total receipts and is the lowest expense ratio of all major performing right societies in the world. The letter also states that £152,866 was expended during 1976 on loans to executive officers. This is not correct: the figure quoted represents outstanding balances of loans made to senior staff over the past nine years; during 1976 there were net repayments of some £20,000.

Detailed financial and other information, far in excess of the statutory requirements, about all aspects of the Society's work has been published in the *Performing Right Yearbook 1977* and in other documents issued to members. A copy of the Yearbook will gladly be made available to anyone who wishes to examine this matter further.

Yours truly, ALAN FRANK, Chairman, General Council, Performing Right Society Ltd, 29-33 Berners Street, W1, October 31.

A feast for Pharisees

From Mr Edwin G. Noble

Sir, Your leader "A feast for Pharisees" (October 29) seems to confuse two issues—the quality of Christian charity we should show to the faults of others and the qualifications we can rightly expect for particular jobs. A person who suffers from dyslexia is not thereby less worth while as a human being, but you would probably not offer him a post as a proof reader (short though you appear to be of that necessary help). However much we sympathise with the plight of kleptomaniacs, we would be unwise to make one a treasurer.

When we choose the best 600 people to govern us out of a population of 60 million we are entitled to expect them to be outstanding in every respect. We should of course be hypocrites if we did not accept the same standards as we apply to them, but the best should be very good indeed, just as, while we should all aim at literacy and lucidity, we expect nothing short of excellence from one chosen to write leaders in *The Times*. Thus it is possible to be full of Christian charity towards a politician and yet feel that there are other people better fitted to perform the task.

Yours sincerely, EDWIN G. NOBLE, 83 South Drive, Chorltonville, Manchester, October 31.

From Mrs Daisy Hall
Sir, How good to read of your attitude to the predicament of Mr Jeremy Thorpe and his family. The media are making the most of the possible homosexual relationship between Mr Thorpe and Mr Norman

Assuming British Government purchases of United States Government Securities have amounted to \$8 thousand million so far this year—and the figure could well be higher, and ignoring the appreciation of sterling against the United States dollar up to yesterday, the cost simply of today's 4.1 per cent revaluation of sterling is equivalent to £280 million on this one investment alone.

Not bad for a day's work. Yours faithfully, ANDREW DALTON, Political Officer, The Bow Group, 240 High Holborn, WC1, October 31.

A permanent wages policy

From Lord Brown

Sir, Professor Jaques in his letter of October 27, commenting on your excellent article (October 24), focuses on the essential point about future wage policy. We must have a national long term policy. Does anyone seriously believe that next July we shall be any more secured against violent wage inflation than at the end of phase 2? It is absurd to assume that we require a national policy only in selected years and that somehow everything will be all right in other years.

The principles governing a future wage policy must be:

(a) Government must decide the total available for increasing the national wage bill.

(b) The TUC and other powerful groups of employees must be invited to decide the differential division of this total between the nation's different types of employment. No other way of dividing the kitty in a way which will stick is available.

(c) Within the parameters so established, each local unit of every large employing enterprise must be given the authority to split up their local kitty in any manner which can be agreed upon by representatives of all groups in that local unit.

(d) The principle must be recognized that if a sustainable adjustment to a pattern of differential pay is to be achievable, then it is essential to obtain agreement to the adjustment not only of those who benefit from it, but also of those who do not.

Through the process of delegation described it becomes possible to maintain a total control over the national wage bill without freezing differentials—the cause of so much bitterness and strife at the present.

Yours faithfully, WILFRED BROWN, 23 Prince Albert Road, NW1.

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Yours truly, ALAN FRANK, Chairman, General Council, Performing Right Society Ltd, 29-33 Berners Street, W1, October 31.

Scott, whereas it is the possible involvement of Mr Thorpe in the plot to murder Mr Scott which is the serious crime, needing investigation. Mr Thorpe has publicly denied both these allegations. Surely now he and his family should be left in peace.

I only hope that your leading article (October 29) will encourage people and the rest of the media to take your fair and compassionate view.

Yours faithfully, DAISY HALL, 173 Princes Gardens, W3, October 30.

From Mr Christopher Layden

Sir, The spirit in which you view Mr Thorpe's plight (leader, October 29) is wise and charitable. God knows the man has suffered, and there is no Christian but must have sympathy with him. Yet politicians invite judgement, and it is perfectly right for the public to try to find out about those matters which will affect their choice.

Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER LAYDEN, 53 Dublin Street, Edinburgh, October 29.

From Mr David Morgan and Mr W. Harvey Cox

Sir, We are alone in thinking that the real scandal of the Thorpe affair is his treatment by the mass media?

Yours, DAVID MORGAN, W. HARVEY COX, Department of Political Theory and Institutions, The University of Liverpool, Rosty Building, Liverpool, October 28.

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Changing the BBC wavelengths

From Mr I. F. Baillie

Sir, Your report (October 28) of the BBC's intention to relegate Radio 4 to the long wave band next year cannot be allowed to pass without protest. What proportion of the radio sets now used by your readers is in fact equipped for long wave reception? None of the four sets in this household happens to be. Surely this is the first step in a plan to kill off Radio 4. Yours faithfully, IAN BAILLIE, 4 Grange Loan Gardens, Edinburgh, October 29.

From the Reverend Caryl Micklem
Sir, When we first heard of the proposed changes Radio Three's loss of 464m was put down to the conference table intransigence of Albania. Now your report (October 28) that the scheme is designed "to make the services available to more people".

Since most listeners to Radio Three "will need to tune to VHF at night", that programme will become unobtainable after dark by most motorists and many city dwellers, and unobtainable by those (of whom I cannot believe I am the only one) who are subject on VHF to violent oscillation of signal intensity, due to wave-echo, every time an airliner passes—every 90 seconds here.

We are becoming all too well accustomed to being deprived of the amenities of civilized life one by one. It is made even more distressing when our loss is presented to us as a gain and we have to pay £3m for the privilege. Could they not have waited till 1984? Yours faithfully, CARYL MICKLEM, The Manse, Allen Street, W8, October 28.

Stationery Office costs

From Professor R. J. C. Atkinson

Sir, Mr Albert's article on the Stationery Office (October 24, p3) prompts me to hope that the reform of its accounting procedures may lead to a reduction in the apparent overhead costs of some of its scholarly publications. As a member of two Royal Commissions on Ancient and Historical Monuments, I know that the retail price of a typical volume of a country inventory of archaeological sites and historic buildings is currently set by HMSO at around £25. The actual cost of printing and binding is about one quarter of this sum, and the book-seller's margin accounts for another quarter. The remaining half represents overhead costs, and this despite the fact that much of the editorial work which would otherwise fall to the publisher is undertaken by the Commissioners and their permanent staff.

These inventories are essential working tools for archaeologists and architectural and social historians, but at their prices few individual scholars can afford them, and even academic libraries must think twice before they buy. Thus their availability is restricted, sales diminish and printing runs of future volumes are curtailed, so that an even larger share of the fixed overheads is borne by each copy: a classic example of a vicious spiral.

Though I write without their knowledge, I know that my fellow Commissioners will share my view that a better informed apportionment of costs will allow the Stationery Office in future to sell these volumes at rather less than four times the cost of production.

Yours faithfully, R. J. C. ATKINSON, The Old Rectory, Wenvoe, Cardiff, October 24.

Silencing burglar alarms

From Mr E. M. Nicholson

Sir, Following my letter which appeared on September 5, 1975, in which I confess to brutally silencing an uncontrolled burglar alarm, some enlightening correspondence ensued. Our Chief Constable, Scott, elicited from the Department of Environment that they had some action under consideration. My own more drastic action heralded two years of peace and quiet in Upper Cheyne Row, but the nuisance is now breaking out again. This very weekend we had to cut the cable of one of these clamorous devices, with the telephoned permission of the absent owner, and shortly afterwards another which went on non-stop for at least seven hours, with the usual inaction by the local police, was finally silenced after midnight by a party breaking down the front door of the house in question. (Perhaps I should add that, while warmly approving, I was not a participant this time.) Pending effective parliamentary intervention, I am even more convinced that the would-be law abiding citizen is left with no realistic alternative if he is to vindicate his natural and common law right to peace, quiet and sleep.

May I again express the hope that among the coming crop of private member's Bills will be one making it an offence to install one of these wilful noise pollution devices (1) without a tested cut out stop to switch it off at most half an hour, on pain of £100 fine for every hour of din thereafter, and (2) without posting on the door of the house of trustworthy keyholders who can be contacted close at hand (if not the police) to turn off one of these highly unreliable mechanisms which goes wrong in the owner's absence.

Lawyers and bureaucrats who are still thinking in terms of long-winded complaint procedures had better forget them. The offence against public peace is immediate, strident and incessant, and any acceptable remedy must be immediate too. If those who profit by creating this public nuisance have not the wit to get together fast and find a way to end it they will only have themselves to blame if the final solution entails putting them out of business.

Yours faithfully, E. M. NICHOLSON, 13 Upper Cheyne Row, SW3, October 30.

From Mr David Morgan and Mr W. Harvey Cox
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Yours, DAVID MORGAN, W. HARVEY COX, Department of Political Theory and Institutions, The University of Liverpool, Rosty Building, Liverpool, October 28.

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Cooking

Katie Stewart
Giving the
game away

Casserole of pheasant is excellent for a dinner party, because it gets over the problem of carving the birds at the table. A slow cooking method such as this means you know the pheasant will come out tender and not at all dry, and it does not matter whether the birds are young or old (you cannot always tell, if they are ready trussed from the butcher or supermarket). A good sized pheasant will provide 3-4 portions, but on average the birds offered for sale are smaller than this.

Try slicing, very thinly, 2 carrots, 1 onion and 2 celery stalks and put them in a bowl. Add a bay leaf and a seasoning of salt and pepper. Now bring to the boil in a saucepan 4 tablespoons wine vinegar and 4 tablespoons water (1 pint mixed together) and pour this over

the vegetables. Let the mixture cool, then pour it over a brace of trussed pheasant. Leave for several hours, turning and basting the birds occasionally, or even overnight if you wish.

Lift the birds from the marinading liquid and tie 4 thin back bacon rashers over the breast of each one and put them in a casserole dish. Pour over the liquid and vegetables, cover with a lid and slow cook them for 2 hours in an oven at 300deg F or gas mark 2. Baste occasionally and when quite tender, lift from the casserole, remove the bacon and carve them into nice pieces for serving. Press the vegetables and liquid through a vegetable mill and put into a saucepan. Blend 1 teaspoon flour into 1 pint soured cream (or use fresh double cream soured with a teaspoon of lemon juice) and slowly stir into the vegetable mixture. Bring to a simmer, stirring to get a smooth sauce. When thickened, check seasoning and pour over the cut-up pheasant flesh. You can do the same thing using apple, celery and onion—the acid sharpness of the puree mixed with cream makes a delicious sauce for the birds.

Other cooks I know follow a similar method, cooking pheasant in a little wine with a bouquet garni for flavour, and when they are tender leave them until quite cold—then pheasant is easiest of all to carve into nice pieces and it means you can lift away any traces of fat from the gravy. Make up the wine liquid with stock from the giblets, boil it

well and reduce to get the quantity and flavour you like and then thicken it into a gravy with a blend of butter and flour. Check the seasoning and use this gravy as a medium for reheating the pheasant before serving.

Long spurs on the back of the legs on a cock pheasant indicates an older bird. It is hard to tell with the hen pheasant, but the beak should be supple and if you hold the full weight of the bird on the lower beak it should bend or break. If you intend to roast pheasant you should be fussy about having this season's young birds. Pheasant has a lean meat which means it can be rather dry if the breast is not covered with bacon rashers before cooking. Spread the birds with a little butter, too, and put a nut of butter inside the body cavity. Place in a hot oven (400-425°F or gas

mark 6-7) and roast for about 45 minutes, basting with hot melted butter. About 10 minutes before the cooking time is up, remove the bacon rashers, baste the birds and dredge lightly with a little flour (a flour dredger will prevent you from being too heavy-handed), baste again and replace in the oven to complete cooking. This is called "frizzling" and encourages the skin to brown and crisp a little before serving.

Roast game should be served with a thin gravy made by deglazing the pan with a well flavoured giblet stock and perhaps a squeeze of lemon juice to sharpen the taste. Most people omit the traditional trimmings of fried bread crumbs and game chips, and instead serve one lovely vegetable like braised celery, sweet and sour red cabbage and apple, or a purée of celeriac. Bread sauce

is nice with pheasant and so is a purée of fresh chestnuts. I have had cold roast pheasant carved into slices for a buffet supper, served with a delicious winter salad of shredded red cabbage, grated carrot and onion tossed in oil and vinegar dressing. Any leftover pheasant from a roast can make a second appearance if you dress it in a well-flavoured sauce and serve it in pastry cases.

If you have a reasonable supply and plan to freeze them, remember that they must hang before freezing. In muggy weather 4-5 days will be enough, but when the weather gets frosty and cold it can be as much as a fortnight. Fluck a ruf of feathers from just above the tail and they should come out quite easily.

Pheasant pate
One bird will go farther if you make it into a pate. This mixture includes belly of pork to keep it moist and chicken livers to give it a darker colour.

Serves 8
1 pheasant;
2lb belly of pork;
1lb chicken livers;
1 glass dry white wine;
1 egg yolk;
2 level teaspoons salt;
Freshly milled pepper;
4 juniper berries;
4oz streaky bacon rashers.

Rub the surface of the pheasant

with butter and put to roast in a hot oven (400°F or gas 6) for about 20 minutes. Cool, then lift the partly roasted flesh from the carcass. Trim and cut up the belly of pork—the butcher will cut away the pork rind if you ask him—and trim the chicken livers. Mince the pheasant flesh, pork belly and chicken livers together (once through the machine is sufficient for a coarse texture). Pass a slice of bread through the machine last of all to get out all the bits and stop mincing when the bread appears. Place all the meat in a bowl and add the wine, egg yolk, salt, a seasoning of pepper and the crushed juniper berries. Mix all the ingredients well, your hand is very good for this. Let the mixture stand for about one hour in a cool place.

Pack the mixture into a large greased loaf tin or terrine dish and if you care to put two bay leaves in the base before putting in the mixture, they will turn out on top. Cover the mixture with the trimmed bacon rashers and a buttered paper or foil. Set in a larger roasting tin with about one inch of water up the sides. Place in a slow oven (300°F or gas 2) and bake for two hours. Allow to cool overnight under a weight and then refrigerate. You will find that a quantity of fat rises to the surface and this can be lifted away along with the bacon rasher when ready to serve—turn out and serve in slices with hot toast or a crisp salad.

Basic recipe:
game pie

A raised game pie could make a handsome centerpiece for a buffet supper table. The shaggy brown hot water pastry crust is quite easy to mould. Traditionally, one of those fluted oval game pie moulds should be used, but you can follow the recipe here using a 6in round cake tin with a loose base.

Raised game pie
Serves 8

23lb hare pieces to provide about 1½lb cut up hare—quantity will depend on the pieces of hare, the back and hind legs provide most meat;
1 pint wine vinegar made up to 1 pint with water;
1 onion sliced;
2 bay leaves;
1lb fat bacon or streaky rashers;
1 small onion or shallot minced;
Salt and freshly milled pepper;
8 prunes, soaked and then blushed in boiling water for about 3 minutes to loosen the stones;
1 pint jellyed stock—see recipe.
For the hot water crust pastry
12oz plain flour;
1 level teaspoon salt;
4oz lard or white cooking fat;
2 pint liquid (milk and water mixed).

Place the hare pieces in a basin and cover with the vinegar and water mixture. Add the sliced onion and bay leaves and leave with a plate over the top (to hold hare under the marinade) for several hours. Drain the hare pieces and pat dry with absorbent paper towelling. Using a sharp knife strip the hare flesh from the bones and cut the meat into neat pieces. Place in a basin and add the trimmed and minced fatty bacon, the minced onion, a seasoning of salt and pepper and about 2 tablespoons of the marinade mixture. Remove the prunes and add the prunes in chunky pieces. Mix well.

Sift the flour and salt for the pastry into a bowl. Cut up the fat and put into a saucepan with the liquid. Bring to a brisk boil. Pour at once into the flour and mix with a wooden spoon to a dough that leaves the side of the basin clean. Turn out and knead lightly to a smooth dough. The pastry will be too hot to handle straight away. Place under the upturned mixture and leave to rest for 15-20 minutes. Cut off one third of the pastry for the pie lid and keep warm by replacing under the basin.

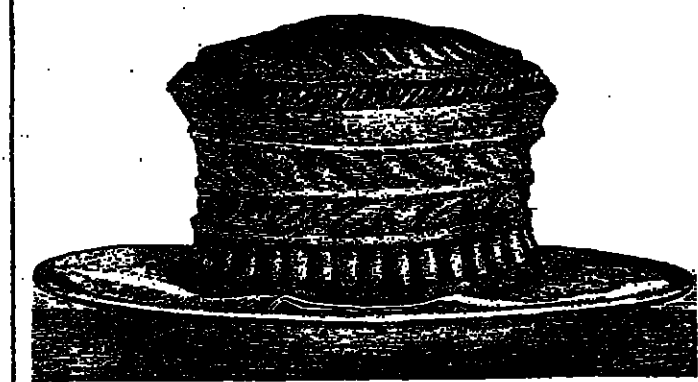
Put the remaining pastry in

side a well greased raised pie mould. Use a kitchen press the pastry from the centre to the sides to get rid of any air bubbles. Then, when base is covered, mould the pastry up the sides. Put the four fingers of one hand inside the tin and press the pastry, moulding it up the sides. Make sure there is no thick layer left between the base and sides of the tin and that the pastry has not been pressed too thinly on the sides. Bring the pastry right up and allow it to generously overlap the rim of the tin.

Brush the inside of the pie and the pie rim with lightly beaten egg and then pack the hare filling into the pie. Roll out the reserved piece of pastry for the lid and cover the pie (remember that a good seal is achieved by putting together one damp and one dry surface). Press edges well together to seal. Trim pastry excess with scissors but not too close to the rim of the mould—leave about 1 inch of overlap and then with the band gently ease this inwards and upwards so that you have a kind of rim. Pinch or flute the edges keeping them up so that the mould will be easy to get off after the pastry has set. Roll and cut the trimmings for a decoration—the easiest way is to cut strips of pastry at an angle (perhaps diagonally) to make leaves and mark veins on each leaf with the back of a knife. Brush the pie top with egg, then place on the decoration and brush with egg. Cut a cross in the centre to ventilate the pie and tuck the corners underneath.

Place in the centre of a hot oven (400 deg F or gas 7) and bake for 20 minutes. Then lower the heat to moderate (350 deg F or gas 4) and bake for a further 2 hours. During baking, brush with egg to make the pastry shiny and brown. At 1½ hours the pastry will have set, so loosen and remove the bacon, the minced onion, a seasoning of salt and pepper and about 2 tablespoons of the marinade mixture. Remove the prunes and add the prunes in chunky pieces. Mix well.

Brush the sides of the pie with beaten egg and replace in the oven for the remaining 30 minutes cooking time. When cooked let the pie cool. Make up a jellyed stock by soaking 2 level teaspoons gelatine powder in 1 tablespoon cold water and then dissolve this in 1 pint stock made from the bones simmered with sliced carrot, onions and a little salt. When cold but not set pour in through the hole in the pie—a large piping tube makes a good funnel. The jelly is necessary because it fills up the spaces where the meat has shrunk and holds it together for slicing. Let stand until the jelly has set before cutting.



Late supper
for four

Reserve this dish for an occasion when you want something original, but not too rich—perhaps a late supper dish after an evening out. Here is a recipe that can be partly prepared in advance and takes only a few minutes to heat through and serve. A mild curry flavour is one that you will find goes well with most shellfish and you can use peeled prawns in place of scampi if you prefer.

Scampi in a curry and cream sauce
Serves 4

2 small onions;
1 tablespoon olive oil;
1 level tablespoon curry powder;
1 level tablespoon flour;
1 pint stock or water;
1 rounded teaspoon concentrated tomato puree;
1 tablespoon sweet chutney or apricot jam;
Juice of ½ lemon;
1lb frozen scampi, thawed;
1oz butter;
1 (4 fl oz) carton double cream;
Peel and finely chop one of the onions. Heat the oil in a

saucepan, add the onion and fry gently for about 5 minutes. Keep the pan covered so that the onion becomes tender but does not brown. Stir in the curry powder and cook gently for a few minutes to draw the flavour, then stir in the flour. Gradually add the stock or water and stir until the mixture comes to a simmer. Add the tomato puree, chutney or jam and lemon juice. Simmer, covered with a lid, for about 5 minutes, then draw off the heat. Strain the sauce into a small bowl—up to this stage you can prepare the recipe in advance.

Peel the remaining onion and chop finely. Heat the butter in a frying pan and add the onion. Fry gently to soften and then add the prepared scampi. Toss the scampi in the hot butter for a few moments and the flesh will firm up and turn slightly pink. Add the curry sauce (and any juices that have run from the thawed scampi too) and bring just to simmering point. Cook gently for 1-2 minutes and then stir in the cream. Blend well and just heat through again before drawing off the heat.

Serve hot with buttered rice. You could follow this up with a crisp green salad and for dessert offer a fruit salad or fresh orange and grapefruit segments layered in a bowl with sugar to draw the juices—well chilled this would make a most refreshing end to the menu.

Quick recipe:
taramosalata

This is taramosalata as it should be—with the consistency of whipped cream. Besides providing a delicious first course with hot toast, taramosalata makes a very good sandwich filling with crisp lettuce and can also be blended with hard-boiled egg yolks to use as a stuffing for an egg salad—top with a garnish of black olives. If you have any difficulty removing the skin from smoked cod's roe, place the roe in a basin and pour over boiling water to cover. Let it stand for a few minutes and you will find that the skin has loosened and will peel off quite easily.

Serves 6

1 lb smoked cod's roe;
1 pint olive oil;
2 tablespoons lemon juice;
2 tablespoons chopped parsley;

1 tablespoon finely chopped onion;
Freshly milled pepper to taste.

Peel the skin from the smoked roe and cut the roe up into small pieces. Place in a basin and spoon over two tablespoons of the oil. Leave to stand for 15 minutes so that the pieces of roe soften. Then stir to mix and press the roe through a sieve back into the mixing basin. Beat until smooth. From now on you treat the mixture rather like a mayonnaise, adding 1 tablespoon of the lemon juice and then gradually beating in the oil one tablespoon at a time. After half the oil has been added, beat in the rest of the lemon juice and finally the remaining oil. Stir in the chopped parsley and onion, and seasoning of freshly milled pepper to taste. Chill until ready to serve. This keeps very well and tastes even better after a day or so—cover with clear film wrap when you put it in the fridge. The strong fish flavour

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VALUERSMiners' vote halts advance
of pound and causes
sharp drop in share prices

By Caroline Atkinson

Unexpected rejection by the miners of the productivity proposals knocked half a cent off sterling yesterday morning after it had touched \$1.8630 against the dollar and 65.1 in effective terms.

But the rate continued well up on last week's levels, and as the dollar fell against all other currencies sterling closed 30 points up on the day at 1.8435. The effective rate index ended 0.2 down at 64.4.

The dollar fell to historic trading lows against the Japanese, Swiss and German currencies touching 245.75 yen, 2.2085 Swiss francs and DM2.234.

This was despite another statement from Mr. Michael Blumenthal, United States Treasury Secretary, on the strength of the American economy.

Now that the Bank of England is no longer propping up the dollar, the rate has weakened considerably. Support from the other central banks has been very limited.

Japan's official reserves soared by \$1,709m (about £28m) last month to a record \$19,577m. This is thought to represent about \$1,500m of official support for the dollar during the month.

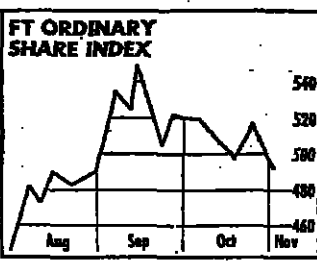
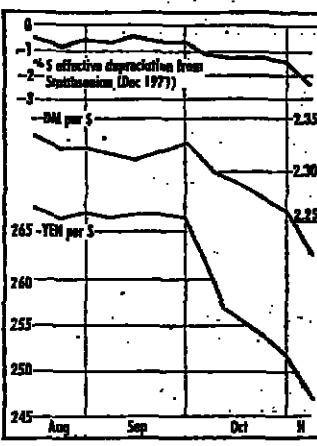
Yesterday, however, Japanese banks were buying more yen than on commercial wires than was being counteracted by official intervention.

The dollar finally closed down 2.2 at 246.9 yen in London. It has fallen 5.3 per cent against the yen in the last month. Its effective devaluation since Smithsonian widened yesterday from -1.91 to -2.44.

At the close the dollar had lost 1.1 pfennig at DM2.2395 and 1.7 Swiss centimes at 2.21 Swiss francs.

Trading in London was hectic and erratic. There was a wide spread of 3 cents in the sterling-dollar rate as dealers tested the pound's range and the Bank of England let the rate fluctuate.

Most dealers still expect a further strengthening of the pound although the miners vote has undoubtedly dampened enthusiasm. Money is flowing



out of New York into pounds, and out of pounds into the stronger Swiss German and Japanese currencies.

More foreign holders of pounds, and in particular the Germans, decided to take their sterling profits yesterday. As the implications of inflation of the miners' vote become clearer this profit-taking could accelerate.

However, the foreign exchange markets have so far this year proved almost impervious to bad news. The British Government's strong commitment to money supply targets, the already apparent and growing surplus on current account, and the belief that the appreciation of the pound which is now being allowed will help to reduce the rate of inflation are all considered by the markets to be crucial pointers to the future strength of the pound.

There is some disagreement over the view taken of the British economy by foreign

investors. Some dealers report a general optimism, while others believe that the huge inflows of capital have been largely looking for short term profits and could soon be reversed.

The Bank of England was in the market in a very small way yesterday to smooth out the worst jumps in the rate. It was thought to have held sterling when it touched the low of 1.833.

Shares' bad day: Shares had their worst day for six weeks on the London stock market yesterday after the miners' surprise decision.

Though a little above the worst at the end of trading the FT index was still 13.4 points lower at 492.1, and more significantly, below the 495 which is generally reckoned to be the lower end of its present trading range.

Dealers said that the news of the miners coming on top of the decision to let sterling go higher, with its repercussions for exporting companies, proved too much for investors' nerves and equities had a shell-shocked look after a bout of heavy selling in the two hours before lunch.

Gilt-edged securities also ran into selling after the strength of sterling had brought early gains. But as the currency turned back longer maturity gilts followed suit to close with losses of up to three-quarters of a point.

With the index losing more than 17 points in two days and now back at the levels of late August many dealers would not be surprised to see prices fall further over the next few days.

They say that while industrial news is brighter in some quarters, the market always sees the miners as a beacon of trade union militancy. If they press ahead with a big claim other groups are likely to follow suit.

Wall Street concern: The Dow Jones industrial average closed 11.44 points down to 806.91 in trading of more than 17 million shares because of concern about rising interest rates.

Financial Editor, page 23

Government worried over state-aided company as Linwood losses mount
Chrysler heads called to Whitehall

By Clifford Webb

The Government is becoming increasingly worried about the financial crisis threatening Chrysler UK, less than two years after it stepped in with £162m to save the American-owned company.

Yesterday Mr George Lacy, Chrysler's managing director, and Mr Peter Griffiths, his deputy, were called to the Department of Industry for urgent talks.

It was apparent before the present strike at Linwood that Chrysler would not only fail to meet its forecast profit of £300,000 for 1977, but was heading for another substantial loss. This was confirmed last week when Chrysler US reported that its United Kingdom subsidiary had lost £19m in the first nine months of the year.

Now, with Linwood, its biggest plant, closed for the past fortnight by a strike, and all 7,000 manual workers laid off, it is heading for even larger losses well in excess of the £20m ceiling set by the Government.

Under the terms of the rescue deal, the Government will have to find half of this (£10m) as well as the £40m it has already provided to cover losses in 1976.

After a year of the agreement, the Government has to be borne by the United States

parent, so that aspect is not causing the present serious concern among Government ministers.

They are worried about Chrysler's continuing inability to improve its market share.

In December 1975, when the Government stepped in, Chrysler held nearly 7 per cent of the United Kingdom market. In the first nine months of this year, that has fallen to less than 6 per cent despite extensive reorganization and the introduction of new models.

Mr Lacy and his colleagues are blaming the strike-prone labour force at Linwood for the continuing poor performance. They have pointed out that despite shop stewards' commitment to improve labour relations and productivity, Linwood has had one stoppage after another.

This steady "bleeding to death" could not be allowed to continue and when the present strike began more than a fortnight ago over a relatively minor issue—the suspension of four inspectors—management insisted on wide-ranging action by the unions to make the plant economically sound.

Far from having the desired effect, the attempt to introduce problems uncon-

nected with the present dispute has angered the shop stewards and the Scottish TUC. They are accusing the company of using the Linwood labour force as a whipping boy for its own failure to comply with the terms of the planning agreement lodged with the Government in March this year.

Leyland was hit by another stoppage yesterday. Some 1,500 workers at Triumph, Liverpool, walked out only a few hours after they had resumed work. They had been laid off for over three weeks by a strike—since settled—at Triumph, Coventry.

The new dispute began when shop stewards objected to changes in manning levels to improve productivity.

After day long talks between Vauxhall management and the unions in Coventry last night it was announced that the company would be recalling 18,000 laid-off workers to resume production tomorrow morning. Recommendations agreed on at the meeting will be put to 3,000 skilled workers on strike in protest at the erosion of craft differentials. Last night Vauxhall had lost over £12m worth of production at retail prices.

It is understood that the inquiry report is an unpleasant and highly critical account of the Crown Agents' troubles before its shake-up under Mr John Cuckney.

It catalogues blunders within Whitehall and within the Crown Agents, demonstrating the need for a clearly defined status and

well-drafted government powers of direction to avoid such mistakes being repeated.

Mrs Hart, Minister for Overseas Development, has the difficult task of arranging publication of one of the Pay Report (there are thought to be some sensitive matters which can be reasonably withheld) without disturbing unduly the confidence of Crown Agents' clients and principals abroad.

The assurance that early legislation will be forthcoming to give the organization a proper constitution and framework of statutory obligations will clearly help.

The intention has been to give the Crown Agents a capital structure and borrowing powers appropriate to their assets, liabilities, and continuing trading activities.

Accounts and an annual report are to be laid before Parliament, and the Government intends to take special powers of direction which need not necessarily be devolved day to day management.

While legislation is relatively easy to draft, there is a developing problem of the capital structure, given the accumulated deficits and existing guarantees now supporting the organization.

Criticism of
Crown
Agents by
committee

By Maurice Corina

Serious criticisms contained in an as yet unpublished Committee of Inquiry report into the circumstances which led to the State rescue of the Crown Agents, are being studied by the Government in preparing legislation for its future public control and accountability to Parliament.

Although faced with a tight programme for the new session of Parliament, the publication of the inquiry's findings will mean the Government will face requests from MPs for an accompanying statement of legislative intentions.

A White Paper outlining proposals for incorporating the Crown Agents was published in April, 1976, but the Government feared that any new structure ought to await the conclusions of the inquiry, commissioned over two years ago and led by Judge Fay.

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Financial Editor, page 23

Rebuff for flour workers' 20pc pay agreement

Leaders of 5,500 flour workers have had a 20 per cent plus pay agreement rejected by the Government.

Mr Harold Walker, Minister of State for Employment, told employers and unions that a main part of the offer—a 7½ per cent self-financing productivity deal—was not within the Government's pay guidelines.

He also stressed that a proposed back-dating before August 1 was not acceptable.

Financial Editor, page 23

The reasons behind the floating
Why Cabinet rejected
an easing of controls

By David Blake and Caroline Atkinson

Ending of the "25 per cent surrender rule", a relaxation of the so-called "super criterion" rules for companies' overseas investment, and possibly the relaxation of rules on sterling's use in third country trade, were the three main elements of exchange control liberalization put forward by the Treasury which would have been included in last week's package of measures. Bigger relaxations on those measures which were taken was another possibility.

They were all rejected at the Cabinet meeting the Monday before Mr Healey's announcement on Wednesday and the decision not to give anything more than token relaxation marks the real point of no return in the Government's conversion to allowing sterling to rise.

Easing of exchange regulations, at first seen as largely a technical response to Britain's improved payments position, assumed sudden new importance with Treasury and Bank of England officials in the week beginning October 10 when two things happened to convince them that the conflict between holding down the exchange rate and maintaining money supply targets had become an acute problem.

The first was when banking figures published on October 11 showed that the policy pursued throughout the summer of sterilizing the inflows by selling gilts and other measures had broken down, with a sharp increase in banking eligible liabilities, which determine money stock.

The second was that in only three days the Bank of England was forced to buy just under £2,000m (about £1,130m) to hold down the effective rate of sterling as funds poured into London. Reserve figures to be published today will show a rise of around £20,000m.

On Thursday, October 13, there was a meeting between a senior official of the Bank and the Treasury to decide what to do.

By Monday it had been decided to bring forward the package of tax cuts to October 26 and to speed preparations for a possible easing of exchange controls.

Relaxing controls on outward investment seems to have been the favoured solution of many officials within the Bank and the Treasury. They argued that outflows of capital would be increased if the present rule which says that 25 per cent of the dollar premium paid on overseas portfolio investment was scrapped.

There was also strong support for easing the rule which says direct investment overseas by companies must earn a positive return to the balance of payments within 18 months if it is to qualify for exchange control permission.

More controversial was an idea to reverse the decision taken last year to stop sterling being used to finance trade between third countries. This was opposed by some on the grounds that it went against the drive to reduce sterling's role as a reserve currency.

Although a number of Cabinet ministers felt quite early on that such an easing of exchange controls was politically impossible because of union and Labour Party opposition it was not until October 24 that the Cabinet finally ruled them out at a short session to settle the details of the package.

The more economically aware ministers at the meeting realized that in so doing they were making a sterling revaluation inevitable.

Some officials seem to have felt that even if removing outward exchange controls was impossible it would have been possible to impose inward controls to deal with what was essentially a short-term problem. This was rejected on grounds of embarrassment both abroad and at home at the sight of having rules designed to keep money out and to keep it in.

Thus, when Mr Healey spoke on Wednesday, there was a general recognition that an upward valuation of sterling had become inevitable. In spite of this the Treasury seems to have pressed to postpone any final decision on the exchange rate until after the package. The Governor of the Bank seems to have favoured an earlier announcement.

CBI survey chief points to anxiety
over wage and export prospects

By Malcolm Brown

Performance by manufacturing industry is still at a low ebb, the Confederation of British Industry said yesterday.

Mr Ray Penneck, chairman of the CBI's economic situation committee described it as "still bouncing along the bottom".

Introducing the latest CBI industrial trends survey, Mr Penneck said that exporting would become tougher in the wake of the floating of the pound. It was now all the more crucial that pay settlements should be moderated, he added.

Senior officials of the confederation are deeply disturbed by the dangers of the present pay negotiations. They do not yet have sufficient detail of the productivity deals being reached as part of many settlements to state baldly that damage is being done by spiralling costs. But they are worried enough to put up what they describe as "alarm signals".

Mr John Methven, director general, said: "I think the chance of achieving a 10 per cent increase in earnings between August, 1977, and August, 1978, is very small."

The CBI trends survey reflects a pervasive uncertainty among businessmen about the business outlook. There has been no further decline in business confidence since the summer, but neither is there widespread optimism.

Output and orders over the past four months have been disturbingly weak, and below capacity working is now more

extensive. But, balanced against this, new orders and output look likely to strengthen over the next four months and cost cutting measures are continuing to ease slightly.

A worrying feature is that price competitiveness is becoming a severe problem in the export trade.

The CBI industrial trends survey was carried out between October 3 and 19. This means it was completed before the mini-budget, but there had been widespread discussion about possible measures during the period of the survey. The survey does not, of course, take account of the floating of the pound.

The survey shows that 18 per cent of companies are more optimistic about the general business situation in their industry than they were four months ago, while an equal percentage are less optimistic.

Below capacity working is still widespread: 69 per cent of replies indicated below capacity working this time, compared with 66 per cent in July. The CBI points out that this is worse than in the troughs of 1963 and 1967 and not much better than during the 1972 trough.

The reported trend in orders and output is worrying. Some 29 per cent of respondents experienced an increase in the volume of total new orders over the past four months, while 23 per cent had noticed a decline. The resulting "balance" of 6 per cent compares with 10 per cent in July and 22 per cent in April.

Equities fell back. Gilt-edged securities lost ground. Dollar premium 97.25 per cent (effective rate 36.55 per cent). Sterling gained 30 points to 51.8435. The effective exchange rate index was at 64.4.

On other pages

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Rebuff for flour
workers' 20pc
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Leaders of 5,500 flour workers have had a 20 per cent plus pay agreement rejected by the Government.

Mr Harold Walker, Minister of State for Employment, told employers and unions that a main part of the offer—a 7½ per cent self-financing productivity deal—was not within the Government's pay guidelines.

He also stressed that a proposed back-dating before August 1 was not acceptable.

Financial Editor, page 23

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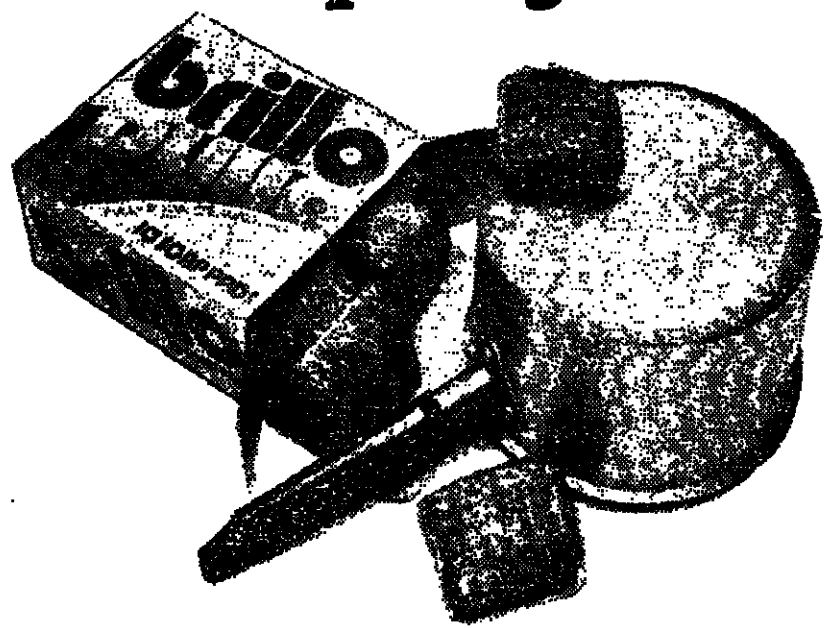
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Pressures delay Carter tax reforms

From Frank Vogl
Washington, Nov 1

President Carter is now widely seen in the Congress as indefinitely postponing his plan to seek legislation for fundamental and comprehensive reform of the American tax system.

The President has already bowed to Congressional pressures and announced that he is delaying the announcement of his tax plans until January. He is now thought likely by leading Congressmen to offer proposals in January that fall far short of those that he has repeatedly stated he intends to promote.

President Carter has apparently been warned by both Congressmen Al Ullmann, the chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, and by Senator Russell Long, the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, that the Congress would not be willing to pass a pack of sweeping tax reform measures next year.

These members of the Congress and numerous others are now urging the President to confine his plan to just a set of tax-cutting measures.

The pressures from the Congress are said by Administration sources to be so intense that it is now thought likely that the President will offer a fairly modest package in January. He may announce at the same time, according to some observers here, that he intends to seek broader and more fundamental reforms in 1979.

President Carter had intended to announce his tax plans in the summer but continued disagreements over aspects of the plan within the Administration produced lengthy delays. The President finally agreed to put off his announcements until next year as a result of Congressional pressures and as a result of his difficulties in winning Congressional approval for his social security tax plans and his energy programme.

It is likely, according to informed sources, that the President's announcement in January will form an integral part of his Budget statement, involving tax cuts to be implemented in a phased manner throughout the current and next fiscal years.

In a modest step towards his broad reform goal he may, at the same time, also seek some simplification in the standard income tax forms. The January announcement is likely to involve straightforward income and corporate tax reductions. There are doubts now if the President's plan will even contain proposals for eliminating double taxation of dividends and for a revision of tax rates to allow for increased progressivity.

Mr Ullmann, Mr Long and Mr Michael Blumenthal, the Secretary of the Treasury, all appear to agree now that the prime focus for tax reform in 1978 must be measures to stimulate business. The fact, however, that the tax-cutting proposals are not to be made before January makes it probable that implementation of tax cuts will not start before the summer of next year at the earliest. With an election in 1978 and with a heavy legislative schedule already planned for the Congress next year, it is said by Congressmen that there will simply not be time to consider anything other than a straightforward tax-cutting Bill.

Prices of houses rose 3 pc in third quarter

By Margaret Stone

House prices are beginning to gather momentum, according to statistics released yesterday by the Department of the Environment, which show that house prices rose on average by about 3 per cent in the third quarter of 1977 and are some 51 per cent higher than they were a year ago.

The average price during the third quarter, based on new mortgage approvals made in the period, was £14,120 with the average advance being in the order of £9,230.

Broken down between new and old (that is, second-hand houses) the statistics show that new house prices are moving ahead faster.

The average price of a new house in the third quarter of 1977 was £14,970, some 31 per cent higher than in the second quarter and 91 per cent higher than a year ago.

The average price of a second-hand house was £13,970, about 3 per cent higher than the previous quarter and 5 per cent higher than 12 months ago.

Oil price rise backed

Mr Ali M. Jadhav, secretary general of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, said yesterday that the favoured sharp oil price increases to reduce world consumption.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Employment Protection Act 'most inhibiting' piece of legislation

From Mr W. G. Francis

Sir, In Business News of October 28, Mr Lever is reported as saying that "if we are hoping to get a much more perfect response to the problem of structural unemployment then we will have to get the maximum achievements in the small business area". He then goes on to say that "there will be no attempt to exempt small companies from legislation which the Government believes to be socially necessary—such as the Employment Protection Act".

Mr Lever should realize, before he finalizes his recommendations to the Prime Minister, that unless the Employment Protection Act is amended it will not be possible "to get the maximum achievements in the small business area". The Employment Protection Act, as it is more commonly called—is the most inhibiting piece of legislation with which those who run independent companies have to contend.

There are innumerable examples of independent employers refusing to expand and take on more workpeople because of the Employment Protection Act. I and others who run independent companies have no wish to opt out of social and community responsibilities, as Mr Lever suggests, but we are certainly not willing to subject ourselves to the injustices of the Act as it stands.

Yours faithfully,
W. G. FRANCIS,
Chairman of the Employment Committee of the Union of Independent Companies,
Folkestone Road,
Cheltenham,
Gloucestershire GL52 2EW,
October 31.

Challenge of marine science

From Professor D. J. Crisp and others

Sir, We share Mr D. Laurent Giles's belief (October 21) that our off-shore resources are of great potential benefit and strongly support his plan for a more positive and coordinated approach to their exploitation.

It is not true, however, that "youth remains uninformed and unmotivated" by the possibilities presented by off-shore resources. In the University College of North Wales we are overwhelmed with young people who, attracted both by the intellectual challenge of marine science and by its practical applications, want to study it at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. They are undiminished by warnings that jobs are comparatively few but most, in the end, have to accept employment unconnected with the sea.

The lack of resolution and leadership to which your correspondent refers is as evident in the universities as elsewhere. We, as the largest University Marine Science Institute in the United Kingdom, have received very generous support from NERC, the research council mainly concerned with oceanography, as well as from UGC, SRC and industry. However, because none of these bodies has been charged with considering specifically the total needs of marine science, our institution has never been provided with adequate accommodation for the research and teaching which we strive to do.

The expertise and motivation exist. If some of the resources which at present go into duplication of effort and into layers of science politics and bureaucracy could be made available to the real practitioners, it would open up much greater possibilities for this country to obtain its livelihood from the sea than the North Sea oil runs.

Yours faithfully,
D. J. CRISP,
Professor,
J. D. B. SHIRE,
Professor,
C. E. FOGG,
Professor,
Department of Marine Biology,
University College of North Wales,
Marine Science Laboratories,
Menai Bridge,
Anglesey LL59 5EH,
October 24.

Legal duty of pension trustees

From Mr P. A. Hill

Sir, Mr Richard Morris (October 24) misses the point when he suggests that nationalised industries should avoid pension fund investment outside the country.

The point is that those industries, as trustees, have not only a right but a legal duty to invest in United States property if they judge it to be the safest or most profitable investment.

The monies are not theirs, nor the government's, nor the country's to invest as politically convenient, but belong to the membership of the pension fund concerned. Those members have paid contributions on the basis that their fund will be invested in their own interests. It would be quite wrong to change this principle, no matter for how patriotic a reason.

Yours faithfully,
P. A. HILL,
23 St Ann's Park Road,
London, SW18,
October 24.

From Mr J. B. Holgate

Sir, Thank you for your interesting article on pension fund offers for investment trusts. As a shareholder in the British Investment Trust, I should have welcomed realising 98 per cent of assets; but I have not been asked, I wonder whose interests are being protected?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HOLGATE,
12 Marlow Mill,
Marlow,
Buckinghamshire,
October 29.

Unions seek assurances on BSC cuts

By Paul Routledge

Senior Cabinet ministers last night met Mr Bill Sims, leader of the TUC steel industry committee, for advance discussions ahead of the talks being held later this week about the financial problems of the British Steel Corporation.

Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, and Mr Foot, Leader of the House, met Mr Sims, who is also general secretary of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation, in the Commons for a preliminary exploration of the scope for cost economies.

The meeting was evidently a broadly based affair, with the Government expressing its anxiety about the losses of BSC, now in excess of £400m a year.

On Friday the battle-ground moves to British Steel headquarters, when the TUC steel committee is to meet the corporation's board to examine proposals for economy measures and the contribution that labour might make.

In last night's talks the unions sought assurance that the workforce would not be subject to arbitrary plant closures or suspension of the guaranteed working week.

Peter Hill writes: There is deep concern in the Government and Whitehall over the corporation's cash crisis.

It seems unlikely, however, that the Government will make any detailed statement much in advance of the BSC's half-year financial results, to be published at the end of this month.

Texaco signs pact with BIOC

Another major American-based oil company, Texaco, has signed a final participation agreement that gives the British National Oil Corporation a right to purchase 51 per cent of the company's North Sea output.

Texaco is the sole licensee and operator for the Tarnan field now under development, and has a 24 per cent stake in the Hamilton Brothers' Argyl.

TUC call for tough line on textiles

By Our Industrial Correspondent

Britain's textile industry trade union leaders are seeking an urgent meeting with Mr John Gummer, Secretary of State for Trade, and Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, to discuss the European Community's policy in negotiations with low-cost textile exporting nations.

Members of the TUC's textile, clothing and footwear industries' committee yesterday expressed growing concern over what they regard as the "weak EEC attitude" to the current round of negotiations with developing nations.

But the United Kingdom Government's attitude to the talks was warmly endorsed by the committee, whose chairman, Mr Jack Macgougan, said that the present Government had done more for the textile industry than any other this century.

In talks with the two British ministers the TUC textiles committee will want to receive assurances that the bilateral negotiations in which the EEC

Commission is involved will provide proper coverage for the United Kingdom industry's problems.

It is expected the committee will press the ministers to urge the commission to adopt a tougher line in the negotiations.

Union leaders are also expected to ask for information on the safeguards which the British Government is seeking on the possibility of redirection of exports from one country to another which could result in a tighter rein on imports.

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Tokyo Round at 'first major milestone'

From Alan McGregor

Geneva, Nov 1

First "major milestone" in the Tokyo round of multilateral trade negotiations was reached today with the tabling of requests on agriculture and non-tariff measures by several developed countries, including the EEC, the United States and Japan.

Intensive discussions will follow over the next few weeks as the effects of requests are examined by the participants. The deadline to matching offers is January 15, when the range of Tokyo Round opportunities will be apparent for the first time.

Mr Alonso McDonald, United States delegate, pointed out that today's requests covered two of the most delicate areas in the negotiations on which little headway had so far been registered. He said American requests included about 1,000 items in submissions to some 30 developed nations.

Frank Vogl writes: These American demands, representing the first detailed salvo by the United States in the multilateral trade negotiations, seek trade concessions from developing countries as well as substantial concessions from Japan and the European Community in agricultural trade.

The Americans have demanded easier access to the EEC for one third of their agricul-

tural sales to the Community, amounting to more than \$2,200m (about £1,195m) of United States sales per year. Concessions have also been sought for a similar volume of agricultural products from Japan.

These demands, which have been filed with the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, are in addition to broad understandings between the United States and other industrial countries on possible general industrial product tariff cuts of some 40 per cent.

No country, or group of countries, has presented a list that concerns so many other nations.

Mr Alan Wolff, Deputy United States Special Trade Representative, stated that the list represented "the beginning of the agricultural trade process in the multilateral trade negotiations."

"The requests address the major concerns of our agricultural exporting interests to 90 countries (some 70 of which are developing countries)."

CBI 66th industrial trends survey: Oct '77

1. Are you more or less optimistic about the prospects for your business in the next 12 months than you were 12 months ago?	More	Same	Less
	18	64	18
2. Do you expect a less optimistic outlook for your business in the next 12 months than you were 12 months ago?	More	Same	Less
	21	51	28
3. Do you expect to order more or less than you did 12 months ago?	More	Same	Less
	23	40	37
4. Do you expect to employ more or less than you did 12 months ago?	More	Same	Less
	42	36	21
5. Is your present level of output below, at or above the level of 12 months ago?	Below	At	Above
	60	30	10
6. Is your present stock of finished goods at a lower, the same or a higher level than 12 months ago?	Lower	Same	Higher
	14	40	46
7. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main raw materials?	Up	Same	Down
	18	43	39
8. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main finished goods?	Up	Same	Down
	18	50	32
9. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main services?	Up	Same	Down
	22	56	22
10. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main capital goods?	Up	Same	Down
	22	48	30
11. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main consumer goods?	Up	Same	Down
	23	48	29
12. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
13. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
14. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
15. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
16. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
17. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
18. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
19. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
20. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
21. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
22. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
23. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
24. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
25. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
26. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
27. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
28. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
29. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
30. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
31. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
32. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
33. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
34. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
35. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
36. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
37. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
38. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
39. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
40. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
41. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
42. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
43. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
44. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
45. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
46. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
47. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
48. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
49. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
50. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
51. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
52. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
53. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
54. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
55. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
56. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
57. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
58. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
59. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
60. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
61. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
62. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
63. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
64. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
65. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
66. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
67. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
68. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
69. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
70. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
71. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
72. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
73. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
74. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
75. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main import orders?	Up	Same	Down
	24	40	36
76. Excluding seasonal variations, what has been the trend over the past 12 months in the price of your main export orders?	Up	Same	Down

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Changing mood in the stock market

It is a measure of how little self-confidence the stock market now feels that it should have been so badly shaken yesterday by the miners' rejection of the proposed pay deal. Equities were at one stage almost 15 points lower and girls, ahead by up to a point in the morning, ended down by almost as much.

The contrast with the mood earlier in the summer is striking. Initial suggestions then that the miners might be aiming for £135 a week for faceworkers were shrugged off with barely a second thought.

But those were the days before the benefits of the North Sea and the strength of the pound had been fully absorbed into the market's consciousness. At present dealers are pressed to think where the next good news is going to come from, and can see all too well in terms of company profits where the bad news will arise.

Ever since the Heath confrontation, of course, the markets have always been frightened of the miners. The Ford and Leyland workers have both, in their way, been regarded as test cases, but both drew back from the brink when the issue went to a mass vote.

In the City's eyes the miners have now rejected an effort to give them a bit more without breaching government guidelines too visibly. There may be plenty of time left for the proposals to be revised but there was even some market talk yesterday about whether this would ruin Labour's chances of getting back in. Nowadays that is no longer taken as a reason for rejoicing.

The wider point, for the gilt market particularly, is that the prospect of an easing in the pace of foreign money inflows because of the floating of sterling will tend to redirect market thinking much more towards domestic factors than has been the case in recent months. That will again put the wage issue into the front line.

There was a strong feeling at the end of the first quarter of the year that institutions, after six months of glut in the gilt-edged market, would start to feed on equities once more.

The latest edition of *Financial Statistics* confirms that this is precisely what happened. The insurance companies, for instance, put a record quarterly figure of £232m into company securities between April and June compared with £44m in the first quarter.

The pension funds also increased their investment in company securities, from £207m in the first quarter to £384m, the highest figure since the opening quarter of 1976.

At the same time investment in gilts tumbled off, particularly among the pension funds where the net investment in gilts was down from £509m in the first three months of the year to £146m.

The unanswered question at this stage is what has happened to institutional liquidity during the third quarter, a period of aggressive gilt sales by the authorities. There is some encouragement, perhaps, in the fact that the institutions were not running down their liquidity in the second quarter.

Plessey

Becoming more

cash-hungry

Plessey has admirably maintained the pace of last year's profits growth with a 19 per cent interim climb to £21.9m pre-tax, and a 10 per cent sales rise to £293m, incorporating a climb of more than a point in operating margins to 8 per cent, reflects Plessey's continuing purge on ineffective product ranges and the benefits of widespread rationalization.

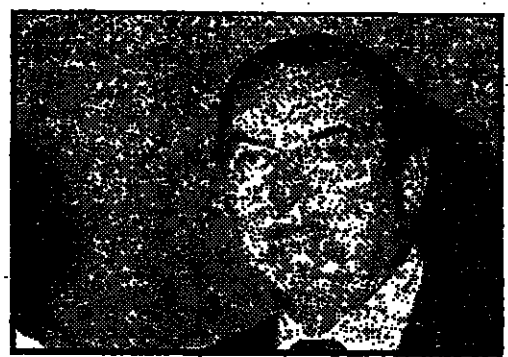
But the strains of the forced switch of emphasis towards electronics systems mainly as a result of the Post Office cutbacks on the telecommunications side are evident in a 43 per cent increase in the interest charge to £5.5m. Spending has totalled around £34m in the first half and borrowings have climbed perhaps by £15m.

The problem is that in the past growth on the cash-hungry long-term systems side has been financed by high cash-flow from telecommunications and components. But

with telecommunications down from 35 per cent to 30 per cent of the business and electronics up from around 32 per cent to 37 per cent Plessey is having to feed an ever hungrier fire from a reducing fuel stockpile.

That adds some logic to the so far one-sided debate about rationalization in the electronics industry as promulgated by Rascal's chairman, Mr Ernest Harrison.

Meanwhile, Plessey, with a £50m increase to £650m in its order book at the end of September, is not particularly concerned about any reduction in competitiveness as



Sir John Clarke, chairman of Plessey.

a result of the firmer pound. Maintaining present growth should result in full-year profits of around £47m to put the shares after yesterday's 4p fall to 109p on a likely p/e ratio of around 11.

Reed International The Canadian haemorrhage

Continued improvement in the United Kingdom, apart from building and decorative products, and Europe have kept Reed International's profits moving in the right direction, albeit slowly, with pre-tax growth of a seventh to £39.4m in the six months to the end of September.

But however much the paper and packaging cycle is working in its favour elsewhere it pales into insignificance alongside Reed's deepening problems in Canada. Here losses are rising at an alarming rate with a £5.6m turnaround to a deficit of £2.8m in this reporting period and a forecast that full year losses will be more than £11.1m.

The group is still taking remedial measures in the shape of cost reductions and capital spending cuts in the North American operations after the excesses of earlier years. But any immediate gain from this has been nipped in the bud by the acute weakness of pulp prices and lower demand which has also forced plant closures.

With the worst still to come in Canada, Reed's full year profits will do well to climb to £80m against last year's £74.6m. But the high tax charge of about 60 per cent will nevertheless lead to at least a 4p drop in earnings to around 21p a share, although the prospective p/e ratio is still around 8 at 164p. Reed was taking no chances yesterday by warning that the final dividend would be reviewed in the light of second half results but a maintained final would still leave cover at around 1.6 times and the yield a comforting 12.1 per cent.

The charitable view of Reed now is that most of the bad news is past. But the fact remains that the group has little chance of trading its way out of its heavy debt burden on results like this. Borrowings, however, have not risen this year, the £2.8m rise in interest charges to £19.5m in this half being due mainly to lower rates on short term deposits.

But £400m of debt is a daunting problem to deal with and disposals so far this year of £21m fail to make much of a dent. Reed is setting its face against selling any of its mainstream businesses and certainly with its present cash flow deficit the United Kingdom publishing interests, which provide a good deal of revenue and require relatively little capital, come a poor second to capital intensive areas like decorative products.

Department stores under pressure

With Christmas less than eight weeks away, West Germany's large department store groups are gloomily forecasting that 1977 will be another year of declining profits and stagnating sales.

Karstadt, continental Europe's largest store group, today warned its shareholders that earnings in the first nine months of this year were appreciably below those of the same period of 1976.

Like its main rival Kaufhof, which published its latest interim report last week, Karstadt holds out no hope that this year's Christmas trade—even if it goes well—will bring an improvement in results.

In one important respect, Karstadt is a special case. The group is at present absorbing the Neckermann mail order, department store and travel concern, which it took over last year to save from financial collapse.

But while Neckermann is undoubtedly an additional source of profits, the Essen-based Karstadt group is also suffering from a general drift away from department store shopping on the part of the German consumer.

Last year, Germany's department stores increased their business by a mere 2.2 per cent. Specialist retailers, mail order houses and out of town hypermarkets reported sales increases ranging from 7 per cent to well over 10 per cent.

In the first nine months of this year Karstadt's group turnover rose by 6.5 per cent to 5,710m Deutsche marks (£1,383m) but only by dint of an increase in sales area. After eliminating the effect of sales increases by just 3.8 per cent, sales declined in real terms as the cost of living in Germany rose by about 4 per cent in the same period.

Kaufhof's performance was marginally worse. Group sales fell by 1.2 per cent, but after adjusting for increases in floor area and price increases fell by a real 3 per cent in the first three quarters of this year compared with the same period of 1976.

Germany's department store chiefs have hopes that the winter months will see a revival in sales and more consumers are getting into their cars and travelling to the city edges at weekends to cover basic needs at out of town supermarkets and hypermarkets. The specialist mail order outlets in the city centres that can offer a more personal service have been matching what demand there is for luxury goods.

A further problem for all branches of the retail trade has been the lop-sidedness of consumer demand in Germany which for the last two years has concentrated on new cars and holidays abroad.

The large department store groups have done their best to meet the challenge. Luxury goods such as oriental carpets and Russian icons are now prominently displayed alongside the more traditional merchandise. Some groups, like Karstadt, have decided to phase out their low price retail outlets in city centres.

The next seven weeks should show whether the strategy has worked and whether the department store groups can make up some of the ground that they have lost.

Christmas shopping in Germany begins in earnest on Saturday and the average consumer will have more to spend this year as Bonn's decision to reduce the taxation of Christmas bonuses should boost individual pay packets at the end of November by between 66 and 168 marks.

Peter Norman

For this relief much thanks...

As always, Shakespeare seems to have a word for it. Francisco at the beginning of *Hamlet* said:

"For this relief much thanks: 'Tis bitter cold, And I am sick at heart"—and that about sums up the reaction of the average small businessman to the measures announced by the Chancellor in his recent mini-budget to help boost morale in the small firm sector.

More action is promised by Mr Harold Lever, when his urgent review is completed, and many commentators suggest that at last the small business is having its shackles of over-taxation and over-regulation progressively removed.

Surely, when that is done, the small firm sector will make the decisive contribution clearly needed from it to relieve our dire unemployment situation and help remedy the shortage of new high added-value products which Britain needs to be competitive in world markets in the 1980s.

But will enough be done to release the burst of energy necessary to halt the steady decay of the past 30 years and create a healthy and expanding small firm sector? The measures needed to bring about such a transformation must of necessity match the enormity of the problem—for there are over one million small firms, employing some seven million people (about 30 per cent of the employed population) and creating 20 per cent of our gross national product. A £100m booster rocket won't exactly put that lot into orbit. To create a million extra jobs in industry is going to need a total "input" of the order of £10,000m to £20,000m per job—and that's a lower rate of investment than the subsidy recently offered to Ford for creating jobs in Wales.

So that, even allowing for the fact that creating new jobs is relatively cheaper in the labour-intensive small firm sector, my judgement must at present be that the Government does not appear to have begun to contemplate measures which are far-reaching enough to solve our problems.

Of course, much thanks for the revival of small business tax relief, but before the mini-budget, the tax burden on transferring a business from a father to his sons in Britain was estimated to be some six times that prevailing in Germany—perhaps it is now only two or three times higher than the German level—and how about the remaining threat of a wealth tax?

Such thanks for the changes raising the level of profit that can be retained in a close company without compulsory dividends from £5,000 to £25,000 and for raising the top limit for abatement—but how about the debt weight of deferred tax on stock appreciation still showing as a liability on small (and large) company balance sheets while that remains subject to possible claw-back not only if a company's ability to borrow seriously restricted but on small company owner in his right mind would take the risk of expanding his business when the legal liability hangs over his head?

Much thanks for the changes in the Market Entry Guarantee Scheme (MEGS) loans of 50 per cent of "eligible overheads" incurred in opening up a market overseas, even though it will bear a commercial rate of interest—but the very words "eligible overheads" are enough to chill the ardour of the small businessman. But the more determined export enthusiast—still remembers the time when a deduction was made from his "eligible" overseas travel costs to disallow the living costs he would have incurred had he sat snugly by the hearth and watched television at home.

Much thanks for the hope of measures in future to help people starting businesses by allowing initial losses to be offset against earlier income, but if this only applies to unincorporated businesses it will prove to be an illusory incentive for the man who hopes to create the new businesses capable of growing into the next generation of large businesses.

The need for a complete tax holiday for (say) the first five years of life of a genuine "start-up" company provides profits are ploughed back, if we are to create a totally new climate to encourage potential entrepreneurs to start the tens of thousands of new businesses which we need to ensure that a few will prosper greatly.

In Eire, for example, generous capital grants and a 10-year tax holiday on export profits are offered to encourage new start-up situations. Surely, for the many new ventures which will fail, what we need is for all investors in them to be able to charge losses against the top rate of their other, or previous, taxable income on the lines which operate in the United States, if we really want individuals to "back their hunches"—as no institution can do—and face the prodigious risks involved.

Much thanks for long overdue reconsideration of the assessment to penal rates of tax on the deemed distribution when "first business loans" are paid back (who ever dreamt that one up in the first place) and for the hope of capital gains tax relief on losses of monies advanced by way of loans or bank guarantees.

But why should it be made virtually impossible for an independent company which fails to rescue anything from the wreck by way of selling its tax losses, when they are allowable automatically for subsidiaries of large companies through the medium of grouping tax losses? Much thanks for the possibility of investment reserve

John Bolton (right), chairman of the Committee of Inquiry on Small Firms, argues that the Government has not begun to contemplate measures that will solve the problems of small businesses



schemes for helping farmers and proprietors of unincorporated businesses to grow, but Switzerland allows similar provisions for all businesses.

In another context, the assertion that social measures like the Employment Protection Act will of course still apply to small businesses seems to me to be a hammer to crack the occasional small business "nut" which is a bad employer.

Most, if not all, people who work in small firms do so from choice—they prefer the atmosphere of the small unit, of knowing their boss and all their other workmates, of knowing their matter to the firm and its customers and in feeling real pride of achievement in its success. The record of low strike levels and lower absenteeism, even sometimes in the face of lower wages than they could obtain in big firms, tells its own story.

But if the risk of lengthy industrial tribunal proceedings—which for a small firm means the equally lengthy absence of the boss himself—and the fear that a wrong decision on taking on a new employee could lead to, what would be for a small firm, a disastrous award against them has to be weighed in the balance of whether to "stay as we are" or take all the other risks involved and expand—all too many small businesses are going to play it safe and to hell with the unemployment problem. Is this really what we want, or isn't some more sensible and more appropriate solution capable of being devised?

What else is needed? Perhaps the critical factor, outside the area of taxation, is to ensure that adequate working capital and permanent capital is available to permit expansion in spite of inflation which itself means that more resources are needed just to avoid contraction. This must require some

form of priority for small business borrowing from the clearing banks, since the researches of the Committee of Inquiry on Small Firms showed that over 90 per cent of small firms approached no one but their friendly local bank manager for outside finance.

There are some 14,000 bank managers up and down the country and they alone can satisfy the working capital needs of the small firm sector and hence make a reality out of the steps taken to reduce long-term unemployment. They must have every encouragement to be even more entrepreneurial (and many are very much so) in their approach and a "priority lending" tag would be the most powerful method of providing this encouragement.

Exceptional cases, where export growth, import saving potential or important new product developments of an unusual nature created the need for working capital in excess of normal prudent banking limits, then, and only then, should a government insurance scheme, on the lines perhaps of developments in the United States and operated through the clearing bank network, be brought into action to cover the excess borrowing requirement.

Again, the local bank manager network is the only one capable of servicing over one million small firms and any government loan scheme which removed the banks from the front-line responsibility would be counter-productive. Even "prudent banking limits" could be taken down and given a bit of a dusting over. In general terms British banks will lend approximately the same amounts as the total of proprietors' capital and reserves remained in a small business—a 1 to 1 ratio.

During Japan's economic miracle, their banks loaned three or four times the proprietors' net assets to get the fly-wheel of expansion spinning. I'm not suggesting anything as wild as that, but a 1.1 to 1 ratio would be a useful 10 per cent expansion in "prudent banking limits" and small firms already pay an insurance premium to the banks by way of higher rates of interest than large firms, to cover what I'm assured is nevertheless the satisfactorily low loss record on small loans.

Finally, for more permanent loan equity capital, every effort must be made to channel more of our total savings bank from the large insurance and pension funds and other institutions, into which tax incentives encourage us to channel them, down into the wealth creating base of the economy.

The committee of inquiry researches revealed that total lending (including property mortgage finance) by these great institutions to the small firm sector (which is creating 20 per cent of the gross national product) is a derisory 0.3 per cent of their total funds.

As a start, changes should be made in the provisions of the Insurance Companies (Valuation of Assets) Regulations 1976, which had the well meaning intention of curbing the activities of possible fringe insurance companies, but which effectively meant that an insurance company investing in a new, or as yet barely profitable, private company has to write the value of its investment down to nil in its books. Again, have we really got our priorities right if we are now determined to encourage the growth of the small firm sector?

'Tis still bitter cold and I am still sick at heart. But at last there is a warm glow on the horizon.

Business Diary: Enter Edwardes • Economics is bunk

Leyland corporate executives were wondering yesterday, the first day at work of the company's new full-time chairman, Michael Edwardes, if and how he will shake up the management structure.

Edwardes, formerly chairman of the Chloride Group, is known to have been on forming an "inner cabinet" of four—himself and three executive vice chairmen—who will run the company's business as heads of divisional units.

The chairman, who could very well put himself in charge of the troubled car division, has the support of Alex Park, formerly chief executive, as one of the vice chairmen and could name the other two shortly.

Meanwhile, Edwardes chose to begin his rule over the state-

controlled empire not at the big Leyland headquarters in Marylebone Road, London but at the company's showrooms in Piccadilly. This immediately led to concern among the 500-strong head office staff that cuts are on the way.

Edwardes has taken over the office of the company's last full-time chairman, Lord Stokes, now the BL president, and declined to allow photographers to picture him at his desk yesterday because, he said, the office had been stripped of everything.

His first task will be to arrange meetings with the existing board of directors and senior executives to work out a new plan of campaign.

The National Enterprise Board, as holder of the Leyland purse strings, is due to present the Government with a review of the company's prospects within the next month and Edwardes, formerly a member of the NEB, will be keen to show that he is working quickly to restore morale among employees, dealers and customers.

To help him, Edwardes has brought to Leyland his close-knit, as his personal assistant, in line with the detailed publicity Britain's most notorious company has come to expect, reporters duly noted that Edwardes arrived for work nearly an hour late wearing a black sported tie and pink shirt.

He was also driven to the office in an out-of-production Triumph estate car although Leyland said later he would soon be travelling in a "top of the range" Jaguar or Daimler.

Mr Michael Edwardes, the new president of the Institution of Civil Engineers, laid into the

controlled empire not at the big Leyland headquarters in Marylebone Road, London but at the company's showrooms in Piccadilly. This immediately led to concern among the 500-strong head office staff that cuts are on the way.

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Civil Engineer's Alan Muir: third time lucky?

economists in his inaugural speech last night.

Economists, he said, bear a heavy responsibility for the state of their respective nations, but often don't know what they are talking about.

They dabble in scientific and mathematical methods and jargon without understanding them, and were too quick to ignore facts that did not fit their preconceived notions.

Two further defects of most economists, Muir Wood continued, "are first, they theorise without a sense of personal responsibility (who... ever heard of an economist resigning for a false prediction?) and second, that they lack experience of practical work and have no feel for the skills and the organizations they classify as 'labour'."

As befits a man so adept at undermining positions, Muir Wood is one of the world's leading tunnellers. He is a partner of Sir William Balgownie & Partners, and has been associated with work on the ill-fated Channel Tunnel. He succeeded as ICE president

John Baxter, senior partner of Mousell Consultants.

Muir Wood said last night that Britain had the first industrial revolution—that of simple industry—and the Americans the second, that of maximizing consumption. He now sees Britain poised to lead a third, that of "industrial husbandry"—the virtue of her skills and resilience. Economists excepted of course.

Many City interiors will be looking brighter from the beginning of next month, as they begin to sprout sculpture under a rental scheme operated by the design consultants MacDonald Rowe and the Royal Society of British Sculptors.

The idea, Michael MacDonald told *Business Diary* yesterday, is that sculptures can be hired for £10 per piece per week, and be replaced by others every three months. Places of work will be more interesting, British sculptors receive both income and exposure—and everybody's happy. Or are they?

MacDonald said that although "two or three dozen firms had signed up, many others were hanging back to see what kind of sculpture was on offer. Memories of those Tate bricks linger on, perhaps."

Over at the RSBS, the president, Michael Rizzello, told us that the society's selection committee has now picked the first 100 or so works and although "a good cross-section of what's being done today, it's by no means way out."

There is, for example, even a life-size bust of Churchill by John Douglas. The work of over 30 sculptors is represent-

ted, ranging in size from 21-inch ballet figures by Nathan David to a life-size figure by Franta Belsky.

Over half the 164 Leyland buses owned by the Lagos State Transport Corporation are to be scrapped because of alleged manufacturing defects, according to the newspaper *New Nigerian*.

Chief Amuzur Adebawale, the corporation chairman, is said to have ordered 200 more buses from Mercedes-Benz following accusations that Leyland failed to supply spare parts and to honour guarantees.

This is a familiar enough sort of gripe against the corporation, and we won't know Leyland's side of the story for some time—and that's the Nigerian's fault, not Leyland's. Leyland International have authorized a team of engineers to go to Lagos and get the buses back on the road, regardless of expense. And so they would, were it not for the fact that after three weeks there is still no sign of the Nigerian authorities coming up with their visa.

A picture of the buses shows them to look extremely battered, but this is attributed not to their treatment at the hands of Lagos drivers but to defective parts, among them steering columns.

The local council at Kitchener, Ontario, Canada, is doing its best to restrict weekend work at its cemeteries. It has raised fees by £27 to £95 for weekend burials and by £13 to £79 for burial services. Week day burials without service cost £100. The council said: "We are backing our workers, who want Saturdays off."

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Mallinson-Denny set for further improvement in second half

By Alison Mitchell

Mallinson-Denny, the international timber group headed by Sir Frederick Catherwood, seems to be riding out the depression in the building trade. Despite a slight downturn in the United Kingdom contribution, the group showed a near 10 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £4.65m in the six months to June 30 last, against £4.26m. Turnover rose by over a quarter from £75.7m to £95.6m leaving margins almost a full point tighter at 4.8 per cent.

These results take in a first time contribution from American acquisition Thompson Mahogany. Managing director and deputy chairman, Mr Thomas Macpherson, revealed that this outfit clipped in around £300,000.

Trading in Mallinson's main markets abroad—America, the Far East and Australasia—has been buoyant in the first half and this is expected to continue throughout the rest of the year. However as the level of house



Sir Frederick Catherwood, chairman.

starts in the United Kingdom continued to stagnate, this side of the business failed to hold its own.

But there has been an improvement since June. Despite the lack of statistical evidence Mr Macpherson is convinced

that there has been a definite upturn in the number of house starts. The order book for the group's roof support division has been lengthened from one week to eight and there is more business in the pipeline.

Because of the group's wide-spread of interests—in timber, manufacturing and general merchandising—it has been less susceptible to the price fluctuations of softwood—a factor which has hit the profits of many smaller companies.

The group also benefited this time round from the timing of its financial year end.

Because it runs with the calendar year the buoyant January to March period has been taken in to first quarter results.

However the directors are confident that the second half will show further improvement. They hint that the year end could see pre-tax profits of around £3.4m against £3.27m.

This could leave Mallinson as one of the few major timber companies to show an increase on last year.

'Ribbons' spices cash call with fine year

By Bryan Appleyard

"W" Ribbons Holdings, the nylon and polyester webbing group, has announced a 19 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £1.1m and the purchase of the remaining 25 per cent of a subsidiary.

In the year to June 30 the group made £1.1m pre-tax against £910,000 the year before on turnover up from £14.8m to £15.2m.

Below the line a change in accounting for deferred tax boosts last year's earnings per share to 18.47p against 9.52p as shown in the accounts and 14.22p this year.

The group is benefiting in France and Germany, where it makes complete car seat belts, from legislation enforcing belts in rear seats.

But the biggest success story of the year was the 75 per cent owned subsidiary Lofit (UK) which makes a flexible one ton bulk container.

The parent is buying out the remaining 25 per cent for

£50,000 cash and the issue of 350,000 new shares. The board estimates that this 25 per cent would have contributed an extra £100,000 profit last year.

The rights issue is to raise £553,000 and is at 50p per share against a price before the announcement of 67p.

The report and accounts, out in a few days, will show how much this was needed. Net borrowings had reached £3.2m by October 14 against a shareholders' funds of £3.4m a gearing ratio of 95 per cent.

BSG International, which has 28 per cent, has agreed to take up its rights in full.

The final dividend is 1.93p gross making a total of 3.4015p. This year the board says that it is expected to be able to recommend a total gross payout of 5p per share.

The shares lost 2p to 65p yesterday, putting them on an ex-rights price of 61p where they yield prospectively 8.2 per cent.

Stock markets

Heavy selling on pound and miners sends index below 500 again

The miners' decision to reject their productivity deal coming on top of the generally bearish view of the Government's move on sterling proved too much for equities which had their worst day for six weeks.

Disregarding better news from British Leyland and British Oxygen, the session began with a widespread mark-down, which was followed in the two hours before lunch by some heavy selling.

Though a slightly better tone prevailed thereafter as the FT index was still 13.4 lower at 492.1 at the end of trading.

The implications of the miners' decision for the current state of pay talks turned the fixed-interest market back from early gains which had stretched to a full point at the long end of the range.

But favourable thoughts about inflation and the money supply were soon forgotten as the sellers came in and, by the close, most longs were around three-quarters of a point below their overnight levels. Shorter maturities fell by amounts of up to half a point.

At 53p down 1p, IMI shares are getting perilously close to the 50p offer price for which applications close tomorrow. The offer is still expected to go well as institutions take the opportunity of increasing their holdings in a front-line engineering company while saving commissions and stamp duty worth 14p a share. But it is feared that interest rates will not fall further and the latter on a much firmer metal price.

Once again the biggest falls among the "blue chips" were reserved for the major exporters like Beecham, which dipped 17p to 620p, after touching 615p, ICI which slipped 5p to 387p, and Unilever at 557p, and Glaxo at 613p, both off by 14p.

But banks and gold shares were "stunned" as sectors going against the trend, the former in particular, interest rates will not fall further and the latter on a much firmer metal price.

Both Lloyds at 255p and Midland at 345p managed rises of three points among the clearer, but elsewhere in the financial sector, shares succumbed to the general trend, with Schroders 20p to 470p and Cater Ryder 7p to 318p being particularly hard hit.

In mines, diamonds featured De Beers which rose 15p to 268p and among the "heavyweights" gold issues gained ranging up to a full point were scored by Buffelsfontein at £9.50, Randfontein £27.62, Harties at £10.50, and West Dries at £19.37.

Other major exporters to lose ground heavily included Mothercare 8p to 195p, Thorn 12p to 410p, Gestetner 7p to 155p and Wedgwood at 214p. But Horizon Midland continued to gain ground on the prospect of cheaper holidays, adding 4p to 57p, while isolated gains were to be found in the property sector, with rises of a few pence from MEPC 130p, Daejan 61p and Land Securities at 214p.

Shipping shares are a sector very much out of favour at the moment, mainly because of an adverse circular and their higher overseas earnings content.

While most dealers on the pitch feel this reaction is rather overdone, British Commonwealth was sold heavily, losing 13p to 267p and Ocean finished three points lower at 126p. Both Lofit, at 37p, and European Ferries, at 94p, stand to gain from a firmer pound, not least because they both have foreign currency loans. In the event, this did little for them and they were both a point or so lower at the end.

Back on the industrial front, Dunlop slipped 5p to 33p after news of a pay claim said to be of more than 25 per cent. Other well-known names to fall heavily included Booker McConnell, by 8p to 225p, and in the building sector, Cape Industries 6p to 110p, SGB 6p to 130p and Costain 8p to 282p.

Two major names reporting were Plessey, off 4p to 109p, and Reed, which ended with a fall of 11p to 164p. The electronics group succumbed to the general trend in spite of record profits and a record backlog of

orders, while Reed's fall was more comprehensible after lower profits and details of problems in Canada. But, in both cases, the key to the share reaction was figures which were below most market expectations.

A couple of stores shares in retreat were Gus "A" 8p to 324p and Debenhams 4p off at 103p. The major oils were also well down on exchange-rate considerations although dealers were again rather sceptical of this bearish view, Shell shed 22p to 558p and BP 12p to 876p.

A sudden joltup of interest in Gas and Oil Acreage, quoted under Rule 163, lifted the shares 5p to 105p. While the hope of world news from the Buchen Field was an obvious incentive, there is also talk of a full quotation before the end of the year at a price of £12p. In addition to 1p per cent of Buchen GOAL has stakes in other blocks and a gas interest in Italy.

After interim figures, Hambros Investment Trust held steady at 90p, but Mallinson Denny, the timber group, slipped 2p to 48p, after figures which were described as "not too bad", and "W" Ribbons lost 2p to 65p after a rights issue.

Three to rise on the prospect of cheaper imports were Inveresk at 79p, Photo-Me 205p and Heron Motor at 82p. Speculative attention helped E. Upton to gain 5p to 33p at one stage when demand was strong. VG Allen, 6p to the good at 58p.

Equity turnover on October 31 was £84.07m (15.710 bargains). According to Exchange Telegraph, active stocks yesterday were ICI, Shell, Gus "A", GKN, BAT Dfd, Glaxo, BAT Ind, Grand Metropolitan, Hawker Siddeley, Marks & Spencer, Unilever, BP, Royal Bower, Tate & Lyle, Reed Group, British & Commonwealth, Mining Supplies, De Beers, Gestetner "A" and Peacoch.

Latest results

Company	Sales	Profits	Earnings	Div	Pay	Year's
Int or Fin	£m	£m	per share	pence	date	total
Beecham (F) (—)	1.2(0.1)	—	—	3.3(2.8)	23/12	4.55(4.0)
Dorington (F) (0.25)(0.21)	0.30(0.26)	—	—	1.4(1.25)	9/12	(2.7)
Hartley (F) (11.4)(8.4)	0.18(0.26)	3.35(6.98)	0.9(1.23)	—	—	2.7(2.17b)
Headline, Sims (I) 2.0(1.5)	0.16(0.11)	4.03(2.69)	0.5(—)	2/12	—	(1.11)
Ldn & Pw (F) (—)	0.93(0.85)	—	—	1.1(1.0)	—	(3)
Milnes-Denny (I) 96.5(75.7)	4.6(4.2)	4.30(3.99)	1.2(1.0)	—	—	(2.3)
Milner White (F) 0.73(0.76)	0.08(0.15a)	1.33(2.65a)	—	—	—	(—)
Myddall (F) (—)	0.43(0.22)	23.83(12.65)	3.0(1.7)	—	—	4.65(4.22)
Palmerston (F) (—)	0.00(0.008)	—	—	1.04(1.04)	—	1.5(1.3)
Reed (F) (—)	23.8(22.2)	5.04(4.12)	2.2(2.2)	1/1	—	(3.14)
Reed Int (I) 799.7(668.6)	38.4(34.4)	11.1(14.5)	5.96(5.95)	9/1	—	(12.9)
Roberts (F) (I) 3.9(3.7)	0.25(0.24)	—	—	1.58(1.44)	25/11	(4.8)
Scott Nat (F) (—)	2.0(1.8)	—	—	2.20(1.95)	20/12	3.45(3.05)
Scott's Rest (I) 652.9(355.0)	0.10(0.06)	—	—	—	—	(—)
"W" Ribbons (F) 15.1(14.8)	1.0(0.91)	14.22(18.47)	1.2(1.1)	5/1	—	2.2(2.0)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1.515. Profit are shown pre-tax and earnings are net. a Loss. b For 18 months.

Sirdar set to do even better

Having beaten the pre-tax for the first time in 1976-77, Sirdar, the handcraft products group, is optimistic. Turnover in both the Sirdar and Hayfield subsidiaries is showing a "good increase" in the current year, Mrs Jean Tyrrell, chairman, reports in her annual statement. She is confident this level of business will be maintained.

After a temporary setback in Europe, Sirdar's offshoots are being reorganised. The chairman does not however expect a rapid recovery. In 1976-77, £1.2m was invested in new plant, assisted by government grants of £387,000. Investment in plant and buildings for the current year will be similar.

Barrow Hepburn in deal with ALH

Barrow Hepburn is buying a portfolio of listed investments valued at £2m from a subsidiary of a London-based holding group. Barrow is giving 3.8m of new shares for the portfolio. Of this ALH will keep what will be 9.9 per cent of the Barrow share, the balance the other 1.22m shares.

The main element in the portfolio is a 26 per cent holding in Weston-Evans group, a stake in Bainesbridge Holdings and 25 per cent of Yorkshire and Lancashire Investment Trust.

Smaller loss from Midhurst White

The reduction of losses at Midhurst White Holdings from £151,000 to £22,000 for the year to March 31 indicates an "improving pattern". But a small trading loss is expected by the board for the half year to September 30. The new chairman of this property, investment and building group, Mr D. Reimann, says that interest rates and the improvement in the economy will help, and he expects that the group will expand, as and when profitable opportunities occur.

LONDON AND NORTHERN Northern Land Contractors, one of the group's subsidiary holding companies, has agreed to sell its 83.12 per cent shareholding in Compromiser Services to Ealing, a new company formed for the purpose of acquiring CSL. With the completion of the sale, London and Northern will receive £482,050 during November.

"I look forward with optimism to further improved results"

Mrs J. M. Tyrrell

Chairman, Sirdar Limited

In her annual statement to shareholders, Mrs. J. M. Tyrrell, Chairman of Sirdar Limited, reports that the increase in turnover evident in the first half of the year continued. Pre-tax profits at the year end showed an increase of 20% over last year's figure. The maximum permissible final dividend is therefore recommended.

Mrs. Tyrrell also says: "Despite the general economic conditions, indeed perhaps assisted by them, sales of hand knitting yarns have flourished. An increasing realisation amongst consumers that it is possible to economise whilst creating for themselves unique fashion garments has revitalised the hand knitting scene."

The sales of Sirdar yarns reached a new record and made the major contribution to the results achieved this year.

Regrettably the group performance has been marred by that of our European subsidiaries. Trading conditions in Switzerland have been particularly difficult this year and in Germany margins have been extremely low and the results from this area of operations have been most disappointing.

During the year £1,250,000 has been invested in new plant. Investment in plant and buildings for the current year will be similar to that of last year.

Forecasting in these uncertain times is indeed hazardous but turnover in both Sirdar and Hayfield is showing a good increase in the current year. I am confident that this level of business will be maintained and I therefore look forward with optimism to further improved results."

Summary of Results

	Year ended 30 June 1977	1976
Turnover	16,435,012	13,609,246
Profit before tax	1,136,191	942,619
Profit after tax	1,039,326	727,463
Ordinary Dividend	208,755	184,678
Dividend Cover	4.9	3.9
Return on Shareholders funds	20.5%	20.1%
Earnings per Ordinary Share pre-tax	14.11p	11.88p

Copies of the Annual Report, containing the Chairman's Statement in full, available from The Secretary, Sirdar Limited, Beehive Mills, Alverthorpe, Wakefield WF2 9ND.

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

To the Holders of

Esso Overseas Finance N.V.

3% Guaranteed Debentures Due November 15, 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Indenture dated as of March 15, 1971 providing for the above Debentures, said Debentures aggregating \$3,600,000 principal amount bearing the following serial numbers have been selected for redemption on November 15, 1977 (\$2,800,000 principal amount through operation

of the mandatory Sinking Fund and \$2,800,000 principal amount through operation of the optional Sinking Fund) at the redemption price of 100% of the principal amount thereof, together with accrued interest to said date:

DEBENTURES OF \$1,000 EACH

1001	1002	1003	1004	1005	1006	1007	1008	1009	1010	1011	1012	1013	1014	1015	1016	1017	1018	1019	1020	1021	1022	1023	1024	1025	1026	1027	1028	1029	1030	1031	1032	1033	1034	1035	1036	1037	1038	1039	1040	1041	1042	1043	1044	1045	1046	1047	1048	1049	1050	1051	1052	1053	1054	1055	1056	1057	1058	1059	1060	1061	1062	1063	1064	1065	1066	1067	1068	1069	1070	1071	1072	1073	1074	1075	1076	1077	1078	1079	1080	1081	1082	1083	1084	1085	1086	1087	1088	1089	1090	1091	1092	1093	1094	1095	1096	1097	1098	1099	1100	1101	1102	1103	1104	1105	1106	1107	1108	1109	1110	1111	1112	1113	1114	1115	1116	1117	1118	1119	1120	1121	1122	1123	1124	1125	1126	1127	1128	1129	1130	1131	1132	1133	1134	1135	1136	1137	1138	1139	1140	1141	1142	1143	1144	1145	1146	1147	1148	1149	1150	1151	1152	1153	1154	1155	1156	1157	1158	1159	1160	1161	1162	1163	1164	1165	1166	1167	1168	1169	1170	1171	1172	1173	1174	1175	1176	1177	1178	1179	1180	1181	1182	1183	1184	1185	1186	1187	1188	1189	1190	1191	1192	1193	1194	1195	1196	1197	1198	1199	1200	1201	1202	1203	1204	1205	1206	1207	1208	1209	1210	1211	1212	1213	1214	1215	1216	1217	1218	1219	1220	1221	1222	1223	1224	1225	1226	1227	1228	1229	1230	1231	1232	1233	1234	1235	1236	1237	1238	1239	1240	1241	1242	1243	1244	1245	1246	1247	1248	1249	1250	1251	1252	1253	1254	1255	1256	1257	1258	1259	1260	1261	1262	1263	1264	1265	1266	1267	1268	1269	1270	1271	1272	1273	1274	1275	1276	1277	1278	1279	1280	1281	1282	1283	1284	1285	1286	1287	1288	1289	1290	1291	1292	1293	1294	1295	1296	1297	1298	1299	1300	1301	1302	1303	1304	1305	1306	1307	1308	1309	1310	1311	1312	1313	1314	1315	1316	1317	1318	1319	1320	1321	1322	1323	1324	1325	1326	1327	1328	1329	1330	1331	1332	1333	1334	1335	1336	1337	1338	1339	1340	1341	1342	1343	1344	1345	1346	1347	1348	1349	1350	1351	1352	1353	1354	1355	1356	1357	1358	1359	1360	1361	1362	1363	1364	1365	1366	1367	1368	1369	1370	1371	1372	1373	1374	1375	1376	1377	1378	1379	1380	1381	1382	1383	1384	1385	1386	1387	1388	1389	1390	1391	1392	1393	1394	1395	1396	1397	1398	1399	1400	1401	1402	1403	1404	1405	1406	1407	1408	1409	1410	1411	1412	1413	1414	1415	1416	1417	1418	1419	1420	1421	1422	1423	1424	1425	1426	1427	1428	1429	1430	1431	1432	1433	1434	1435	1436	1437	1438	1439	1440	1441	1442	1443	1444	1445	1446	1447	1448	1449	1450	1451	1452	1453	1454	1455	1456	1457	1458	1459	1460	1461	1462	1463	1464	1465	1466	1467	1468	1469	1470	1471	1472	1473	1474	1475	1476	1477	1478	1479	1480	1481	1482	1483	1484	1485	1486	1487	1488	1489	1490	1491	1492	1493	1494	1495	1496	1497	1498	1499	1500	1501	1502	1503	1504	1505	1506	1507	1508	1509	1510	1511	1512	1513	1514	1515	1516	1517	1518	1519	1520	1521	1522	1523	1524	1525	1526	1527	1528	1529	1530	1531	1532	1533	1534	1535	1536	1537	1538	1539	1540	1541	1542	1543	1544	1545	1546	1547	1548	1549	1550	1551	1552	1553	1554	1555	1556	1557	1558	1559	1560	1561	1562	1563	1564	1565	1566	1567	1568	1569	1570	1571	1572	1573	1574	1575	1576	1577	1578	1579	1580	1581	1582	1583	1584	1585	1586	1587	1588	1589	1590	1591	1592	1593	1594	1595	1596	1597	1598	1599	1600	1601	1602	1603	1604	1605	1606	1607	1608	1609	1610	1611	1612	1613	1614	1615	1616	1617	1618	1619	1620	1621	1622	1623	1624	1625	1626	1627	1628	1629	1630	1631	1632	1633	1634	1635	1636	1637	1638	1639	1640	1641	1642	1643	1644	1645	1646	1647	1648	1649	1650	1651	1652	1653	1654	1655	1656	1657	1658	1659	1660	1661	1662	1663	1664	1665	1666	1667	1668	1669	1670	1671	1672	1673	1674	1675	1676	1677	1678	1679	1680	1681	1682	1683	1684	1685	1686	1687	1688	1689	1690	1691	1692	1693	1694	1695	1696	1697	1698	1699	1700	1701	1702	1703	1704	1705	1706	1707	1708	1709	1710	1711	1712	1713	1714	1715	1716	1717	1718	1719	1720	1721	1722	1723	1724	1725	1726	1727	1728	1729	1730	1731	1732	1733	1734	1735	1736	1737	1738	1739	1740	1741	1742	1743	1744	1745	1746	1747	1748	1749	1750	1751	1752	1753	1754	1755	1756	1757	1758	1759	1760	1761	1762	1763	1764	1765	1766	1767	1768	1769	1770	1771	1772	1773	1774	1775	1776	1777	1778	1779	1780	1781	1782	1783	1784	1785	1786	1787	1788	1789	1790	1791	1792	1793	1794	1795	1796	1797	1798	1799	1800	1801	1802	1803	1804	1805	1806	1807	1808	1809	1810	1811	1812	1813	1814	1815	1816	1817	1818	1819	1820	1821	1822	1823	1824	1825	1826	1827	1828	1829	1830	1831	1832	1833	1834	1835	1836	1837	1838	1839	1840	1841	1842	1843	1844	1845	1846	1847	1848	1849	1850	1851	1852	1853	1854	1855	1856	1857	1858	1859	1860	1861	1862	1863	1864	1865	1866	1867	1868	1869	1870	1871	1872	1873	1874	1875	1876	1877	1878	1879	1880	1881	1882	1883	1884	1885	1886	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	1897	1898	1899	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910	1911	1912	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
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FINANCIAL NEWS

Ductile forecasts a first half drop in profits and dividend

By Victor Felstead

A warning on both dividends and profits is contained in the annual report of Mr. Ronald Sidaway, the chairman of Wilehall-based Ductile Steel. At present, the group companies are working at only about 70 per cent of normal capacity and he cannot see the group equalling in the first half of the current year the "exceptional results" achieved in the first half of last year. Then Ductile had substantial stock profits.

For the year to July 2 last, Ductile paid existing shareholders an increase in dividends of about 16 per cent, mainly because of the issue of the additional shares relating to the takeover of Newman Tubes. However, Mr. Sidaway warns shareholders that, if restrictions are continued, shareholders will only be entitled to a rise of about five per cent in 1977-78. "I trust that this situation



Mr. Ronald Sidaway, chairman.

will not arise and by this time next year Ductile Steel, in common with all other companies, will be free to determine their own dividend policy."

Ductile's activities cover steel rolling and stockholding, tubes and fittings and engineering. The chairman explains that group direct exports have risen both in volume and value, but its home trade has fallen mainly, in his view, because of the inability of the group's more important customers, the motor industry, to produce sufficient volume.

The main reason for this, the chairman continues, is the series of crippling strikes in the industry which have enabled foreign competitors to secure a "frightening share" of the market.

The year under review has seen the commissioning of three major capital projects at Ductile Cold Mill, Dudley Port Rolling Mills and Moorway Tubes. Capital expenditure during the year reached £1.8m and in the current year, the group plans to invest a similar sum.

Rain should top up profits at Lawtex

The wet weather of the past few days is unlikely to make as much an impact on the profits of umbrella-maker Lawtex as it might once have done.

The Manchester-based group now makes around four fifths of its turnover from the manufacture and marketing of clothing. It is continuing to diversify out of the umbrella industry.

However, in the year to June 25 last this division boosted its sales by 49 per cent to £1.87m, boosting pre-tax profits to £78,000 compared with a loss of £66,000.

And Mr. Gerbert Schaefer, chairman, reports in his annual statement that an increasing proportion of this division's turnover is not dependent on seasonal influences. The clothing division increased its sales by 60 per cent to £7.9m producing a profit of £380,000. This

boosts total group profit to £458,000 against a previous £21,000.

Since June the order book has been maintained at a satisfactory level despite increasing foreign competition. However, the chairman is confident that the Lawtex policy of quality and customer service has helped the group to overcome this problem.

Much of the group's improvement over the past year has resulted from a management reorganisation which has devolved more responsibility to the boards of the subsidiaries, and there should be more to come from this change, according to the chairman.

Improved productivity in the factories last year saw the growth in sales per employee amount to 38 per cent.

Mitsubishi Electric up 15 pc

Tokyo.—Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, the third largest integrated electric machinery maker in Japan, said that its net profit for the first half-year to September 30 totalled 4,639 billion yen. This was up 15.3 per cent from 4,024 billion yen in the year before.

Sales during the half-year 380,148 billion yen, up 13.9 per cent from 339,000 billion yen. Exports accounted for 14.3 per cent of sales. They were 54.3 billion yen up 17.3 per cent from 46.3 billion yen a year earlier.

The group forecast its sales for the year to next March 31 at 786 billion yen compared with 696,288 billion yen.

Mitsubishi said that a forecast of net income was not available yet because of difficulties in calculating after-tax income given certain conditions, such as the sharp rise in the value of the yen.

However, earnings should not be hurt seriously by the rise of the yen because about 70 per cent of exports are made in yen. Sales of electronics machinery totalled 113.9 billion yen, up 21.3 per cent from 93.9 billion. Those of home electric appliances were 106.2 billion yen, an increase of 15.4 per cent.

Sales of heavy electrical equipment were 96.2 billion yen, a rise of 9.7 per cent from 87.7 billion yen, and those of small electric machinery such as motors were 63.8 billion yen, up 5.8 per cent from 60.3 billion yen.

Pirelli expansion.

Britain's Pirelli has begun a two-year £3m expansion and conversion programme to increase capacity of both its Cinturato steel and nylon belted truck tyres 50 per cent by the end of 1979.

The project, for which the Government is to provide over £400,000, will benefit both the United Kingdom factories, at Burton-on-Trent and Carlisle, by a programme combining additional sophisticated plants with modernization of much existing machinery.

Much of the increased capacity for high technology tyres will be used to supply Pirelli's 70 export markets, to which the company increased sales by 45 per cent between 1974 and 1976.

In the last two years the United Kingdom concern has also played an increasingly significant role in Pirelli international group exports, supplying Burton and Carlisle made radials to fulfil orders acquired by overseas Pirelli companies.

While the home tyre replacement market is expected to show only modest growth, Pirelli Ltd predicts a growing demand for its new radial products.

BP Canada ahead

BP Canada's net income for the nine months to September 30, 1977, was \$32.0m, or \$1.52 a common share, compared to a restated \$19,900,000 or 94 cents per share for the same period in 1976. It was restated to conform with an accounting change

International

adopted in 1977 in respect of allocation of costs within periods in the year.

This change has the effect of increasing net income for the first nine months of 1976 by \$500,000, but will have no effect on income for the full year.

Both major sectors of operations contributed to the increase in net income, although earnings from the manufacture and sale of petroleum products are still unsatisfactory.

Net sales and services were £476m compared to £399m during the same period in 1976. Income before income taxes was \$55,400,000 compared to \$36.0m last year.

Thiess coal fundings

Brisbane.—Thiess Holdings said that its Australian expansion of open cast facilities at the South Blackwater coal mine will be partially funded by a Bank of New South Wales-led consortium loan of A\$30m.

In its annual report for the year to June 30, Thiess explains the loan agreement provides for drawdowns to coincide with the period of greatest expenditure at the Queensland mine and repayments to coincide with the achievement of increased productivity and profitability.

Thiess gave further details but elsewhere in the report it noted capital expenditure in the current trading year will rise to A\$34m from A\$16m.

Thiess said that it plans to lift the South Blackwater mine's annual capacity to 2 million tonnes from around 700,000. It expects two large draglines to be set up by 1979. Thiess raised attributable profits to A\$12.62m in the year from A\$11.24m.—Reuters.

Anglo-Transvaal

Mr. Basil Harrow, chairman of Anglo-Transvaal Industries, tells shareholders in his review of the year to June 30 that the business climate was again dominated by recession. South Africa grew more slowly than ever before since the end of the war. The country was short of investment capital and a number of major capital projects have therefore been deferred.

With detrimental effects on business in general and on the engineering and construction industries in particular. However, the group was poised to adapt quickly to any recovery in business.

Nippon's windfall

Tokyo.—Nippon Oil expects a 75.7 per cent gain in after-tax profit for the year to next March to a record 16.1 billion yen from 9.16 billion last year.

Sales will probably rise 4.5 per cent to 1.84 trillion yen from 1.76 trillion. Nippon also plans to declare an unchanged dividend of six yen per share of 50 yen par value, including an interim dividend of three yen. Earnings per share rose to 17.64 yen from 11.19 yen. The group today reported a

57.7 per cent rise in after-tax profits for the first half year to September 30 to 7.94 billion yen after a much bigger exchange profit.

Nippon returned an exchange profit of 13.81 billion yen, compared with 5.76 billion yen in the same period of last year.—Reuters.

German bank study

Frankfurt.—Berliner Handels- und Frankfurter Bank expects 1977 German dividend yields, including the new corporation tax credit for domestic shareholders, to range up to 8 per cent.

The bank said in a study that the power utility Berliner Kraft- und Licht (BENAG) is expected to yield 7.9 per cent for its 1976-77 business year while in the chemical sector 7.5 per cent is predicted for Hoechst and 7.4 for Bayer. The study did not give year-ago figures since this is the first fiscal year under the corporation tax law reform and the 1976 figures are not comparable.—Reuters.

Rapid-American Corp

The Rapid-American Corporation says that it began its previously announced exchange offer under which \$750 principal of Rapid's new 104 per cent sinking fund debentures due in 2003 will be offered for each \$1,000 principal of 6 per cent sinking fund debentures due in 1988. Interest in the new 104 per cent debentures is payable quarterly, and the exchange offer will expire on November 30.

Kauri Hldgs loss

Kauri Holdings, of Australia, a timber-producing and selling subsidiary of Denmark's East Asiatic Company, says its net loss for the year ended August 31 was A\$12m (about £740,000) compared with a loss of A\$807,000 a year earlier. The company ascribed the loss to depressed trading conditions in all its main operational areas, citing specifically "unfavourable economic conditions currently affecting the building industry". Sales for year fell to A\$30.9m from A\$31.3m a year earlier.

Gen Electric (US)

Mr. Reginald Jones, chairman of the General Electric Company of America, has told shareholders that 1977 earnings could be about \$4.70 to \$4.80 a share against \$4.12 last year. Analysts' estimates of earnings this year of between \$4.70 and \$4.80 are "in the ball park", the chairman said.

Hudson Bay Mining

Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting, part of the Canadian operations of the Anglo-American Corporation of South Africa group, has increased its stake in Canadian Minerals, an oil and gas company, from 49.2 per cent to 56.6m by a \$4m conversion of debenture shares.

Balance sheet stronger at Howard & Wyndham

Edinburgh-based Howard & Wyndham has maintained a healthy balance sheet during the past financial year, despite continuing losses from theatre interests.

In the 12 months to June 30 last, net current assets increased by around £350,000 while shareholders' funds rose by £393,000 to £2.6m.

However, an increase in borrowings (long-term loans increased from £2m to £2.2m in the period) and higher interest rates off financial charges up £30,000 at £301,000.

In the year the theatre interests made a loss of £155,000 pre-tax and the group has

decided to axe this side of the business. Chairman Mr. Ralph Fields tells shareholders in the annual report that these operations are deteriorating rapidly, and likely to get worse. But closing down losses will be partly cushioned by Arts Council grants. Arranged through the City of Oxford and the Greater Manchester Council, the subsidies will enable the group to operate its theatres in these cities until December.

On the publishing side, newly acquired Hawthorn Books Inc. of New York will become an essential element in the expansion of group exports to the United States and Canada.

EDITH uses 1977 gains tax reform

Estate Duties Investment Trust (EDITH) has quickly exploited a change in the law relating to capital gains tax, and it holds out more hope for hard-pressed private company shareholders.

EDITH is a listed trust which is 42 per cent owned by the Industrial and Commercial Finance Corporation. It specialises in unlisted investments in which it buys shares but, unlike ICF, it does not provide funds.

In the past purchases of shares by the issue of its own shares have been dogged by the 30 per cent capital gains tax the vendor must pay. But the 1977 Finance Act reduced the stake the purchaser must take to avoid the tax from 50 per cent to 25 per cent.

Since EDITH never takes majority stakes, this has opened up a mass of potential new investments and the trust says that a queue has already formed.

The first taker is A. P. Burt & Sons, a Bristol-based paper and plastic bag maker.

EDITH is issuing 60,005 new shares as part consideration for a 28.6 per cent stake in the company. Another £138,000 is being paid in cash. For this EDITH gets 60,000 convertible participating ordinary shares of £1 at an effective price of £4.50.

This reduces the Burt family stake and has enabled the shareholders to provide for capital transfer tax.

A spokesman for EDITH said he expected a rush of private companies to the institutions offering equity stakes of more than 25 per cent. He expected EDITH itself to be taking more in the near future.

Myddleton Hotels goes on a dividend spree

Best-ever results, a bigger dividend, and a forecast of an even higher payout for the current year, is the cheerful news from Eastbourne-based Myddleton Hotels.

Interests having slashed in the year to June 30, Myddleton raised pre-tax profits in the year to June 30 by 94 per cent to £433,000, easily a record.

With earnings per share almost doubled from 12.55p to 23.83p, the total gross dividend rises from 6.5p to 7.04p. There is also an extraordinary item of £177,000 to be added to net profit, while there was no similar item last year, thus making

a total of £458,000, against £67,000.

Having bought the Kensington Court Hotel, London, earlier this year, Myddleton has now exchanged contracts to buy Lincolns Lodge Hotel, Oxford. The price is £665,000. It will be satisfied by the issue of 300,000 new ordinary shares and £175,000 cash. The shares are being placed with institutional investors.

In connection with the placing, the Treasury has agreed to Myddleton paying a total dividend of 10p gross for the current year. This would be an increase of about 42 per cent over 1976-77's payment.

Expansion programme at Bristow

Bristow Helicopter Group recently hit the headlines after a confrontation between the group's chairman and its pilots, followed by a two-month-long strike. Now it announces helicopter and spare parts orders worth £17.8m. This brings the total capital investment this year to £28.2m.

The latest buy consists of 330 helicopters, five more Bell 212s and an initial batch of 10 Sikorsky S-76As. The Pumas and Bell 212s are scheduled for delivery between November, 1977 and February, 1978.

As of yet Bristow's have not said how many of these helicopters are to be based in the United Kingdom. These new additions to the Bristow fleet will bring the number of its twin-engine IFR helicopters to 86.

Revertex move in Malaysia

Revertex Chemicals is to grow in Malaysia with the construction of a new plant at Klang. It is also raising £1m in Malaysia through an issue of shares in Revertex Malaysia to the Johore State Economic Development Corporation.

The board of Revertex Chemicals has announced that in accordance with both the Malaysian government's wishes and its own policy of inviting local participation, that arrangements have been concluded whereby the Johore State Economic Development Corporation will subscribe in cash for new shares in wholly owned subsidiary Revertex Malaysia Sdn Bhd. This representing approximately 30 per cent of the enlarged share capital.

LCP buys a steel group for £1m cash

LCP Holdings has paid £1m cash for HKB Steel (Scotland). From its base near Rotherham, it operates as a merchant in carbon and alloy steels and is a specialist supplier to the forging industry.

HKB will become part of the metals division of LCP Holdings, forming a natural extension to the range of carbon steels marketed by LCP Steel Products, Darlington. It will also complement this by the additional alloy range covered by the Sheffield company. The present managing director of HKB, Mr. K. Reed, will continue in office.

It is now the intention of the LCP metals division to further penetrate the Scottish steel market by developing its presence at the LCP Airdrie depot, which will consolidate the group's Scottish and Northern distribution interests.

Warning on margins at Sanderson

The rates of production and delivery at Sanderson, Murray & Elder, says Mr. P. Williams, chairman, in his annual statement. Margins in the second half rose and profits included realised gains on conversion of foreign exchange associated with the South African subsidiary.

Since the spring prices have declined, and from June there has been less new business, with depressing effects on margins. There may now be less advantage to buyers to delay, however, since reduced wool supplies together with Government-sponsored price support in the major wool growing countries make lower prices doubtful at present rates of exchange.

The prospects for the current year are difficult to forecast adds Mr. Williams.

Vavasseur deal for part of Shepperton

Vavasseur Group's offshoot, Muland Allen International, says that its subsidiary Shepperton Studios has today completed arrangements with Ramport Enterprises. This is the company which owns the rights of "The Who" pop group and it is taking a long lease on certain buildings at Shepperton Studios including The Old House and J and K Stakes, which will continue to be available for filming purposes.

Over the next 3 years Ramport plans to develop sound, video and laser facilities at the Studios and also to extend their own film-making and holographic activities. Shepperton Studios has received £350,000 under these arrangements and this will enable the Studios to expand the current capital expenditure programme.

CONTROL SECURITIES

Civ panel says that if shareholders approve arrangements put to them at forthcoming EGM they will not require Labfund AG to make a general offer for the balance of the shares.

NO INVESTIGATIONS

Following mergers are not to be referred to the Monopolies Commission, BICC-Dorman Smith Holdings London and European Group-O. C. Summers (Holdings).

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Interest rate held at 6½ per cent. Biggest borrower is Manchester with £1.5m, while Stoke-on-Trent has £1.5m. Strathclyde has £1.25, and film is being raised by both Dundee and Grampian.

SELECTION TRUST

Selection Trust is to change its financial year end from March 31 to December 31 for administrative reasons. The group will report profit figures for the nine months to the end of next month.

STANLEY GIBBONS

Company has bought for "several hundred thousand dollars" stock of Samuel Roy of Chicago, a long-established stamp dealer.

SCOTT & ROBERTSON

Turnover for half-year to August 26, £3.74m (£7.46m). Pre-tax profit, £125,000 (£367,000). Profit is likely to continue at a lower level than last year, board warns.

WALTER LAWRENCE

Turnover increase and higher volume and increased productivity resulted in profits being maintained. The Group actively continuing its logical diversification policy.

FLIGHT REFUELLING

Turnover for six months to June 30, £4.9m (£3.7m). Pre-tax profit £660,000 (£430,000). Board expect improved trend to continue in second-half.

ADCOCK-INGRAM INV

Directors of ADRINGA have requested temporary suspension of listing of shares on Johannesburg Stock Exchange. The directors of Tiger Oms have requested temporary suspension on London and Johannesburg Stock Exchanges.

DOVER ENGINEERING

There is a slight reservation from auditors on a £700,000 profit forecast for current year.

SELUKWE GOLD MINING

Selukwe Gold Mining and Finance in talks with shareholders of a private company which could lead to Selukwe taking it over. But value of its shares could take six weeks. Selukwe shares temporarily suspended.

Nissan expects to hold net profit at £185m

Tokyo.—Nissan Motor of Japan, which makes the Datsun car, expects a profit, after tax, of about 85,000m yen (about £185m) for the year to March 31 next. This would compare with the previous year's 85,290m yen. Datsun cars recently became the third biggest selling name in Britain.

Sales will probably rise by around 12 per cent to 2,260,000m yen. Nissan will declare an unchanged dividend total of 10 yen. As known, profits in the first six months were steady at 42,470m yen, against 41,970m yen, on sales of 1,080,000m yen, compared with 1,000,000m yen. Earnings per share fell from 38.69 to 33.67 yen.

Domestic sales of vehicles in the first half-year to September 30 slipped by 4.5 per cent to 541,700 units, while exports were 8.2 per cent at 608,100 units.

Business appointments

Director named to head European Rank Xerox

Mr. Hamish Orr-Ewing, managing director of Rank Xerox (UK), has been promoted to be director of a group of Rank Xerox European operating companies. The subsidiary companies within his responsibility include Rank Xerox (UK), of which he becomes chairman. Succeeding him as managing director of Rank Xerox (UK) is Mr. Wayne Hicks.

Mr. A. G. Wilkinson, Mr. D. A. Griffiths and Mr. C. Ross have joined the board of Forward Trust. Mr. L. F. Crick has retired from the chairmanship and board of Antagasta (Chili) & Bolivia Railway and its subsidiaries and has been succeeded as chairman by Mr. G. S. Stone.

Mr. John Higgs, Mr. Herbert Holmes, Mr. John Rodgers and Mr. Terry Watts have joined the board of H. P. Butner. Mr. Leslie Thomas has joined the board of Central & Sheerwood. Mr. J. F. Grosfield has been elected a non-executive director of Baker Perkins Holdings.

Mr. G. H. Cartwright and Mr. A. B. Brooker have become non-executive directors of Provident Financial Group.

Mr. Bryan McSwiney joins the board of Allied Investments. Mr. Frank Knight becomes deputy chairman of Campbell's Soups.

Mr. Bill Munroe has been made managing director of Beaver Pains and The Hygienic Paint Company. Mr. K. S. Jenkins is now joint managing director of British Cocoa Mills (Gill).

Mr. E. Hawley has been made finance director of Engineering Components.

Mr. Bryan Sanderson has become chairman and chief executive of Kerridge (Cambridge).

Mr. Christopher Garrod has joined the board of Garrod and Lettis.

The following comprise the board of Eagle Six Trust Company: Mr. A. J. S. Duckworth (chairman), Mr. J. N. W. Dudley, Mr. B. W. Dumas, Mr. C. R. Hewson.

Mr. Charles Burkin is chief executive, from December 1, of URAE Banking Company from bank established by Union de Banques Arabes et Françaises, Libyan Arab Foreign Bank and Midland Bank.

Mr. Robert J. Nicholls has been nominated by the British Transport Docks Board to be docks manager at the Port of Lowestoft from January 1. He will be succeeded as docks manager by Mr. Trooz, by Mr. Thomas L. Kemp.

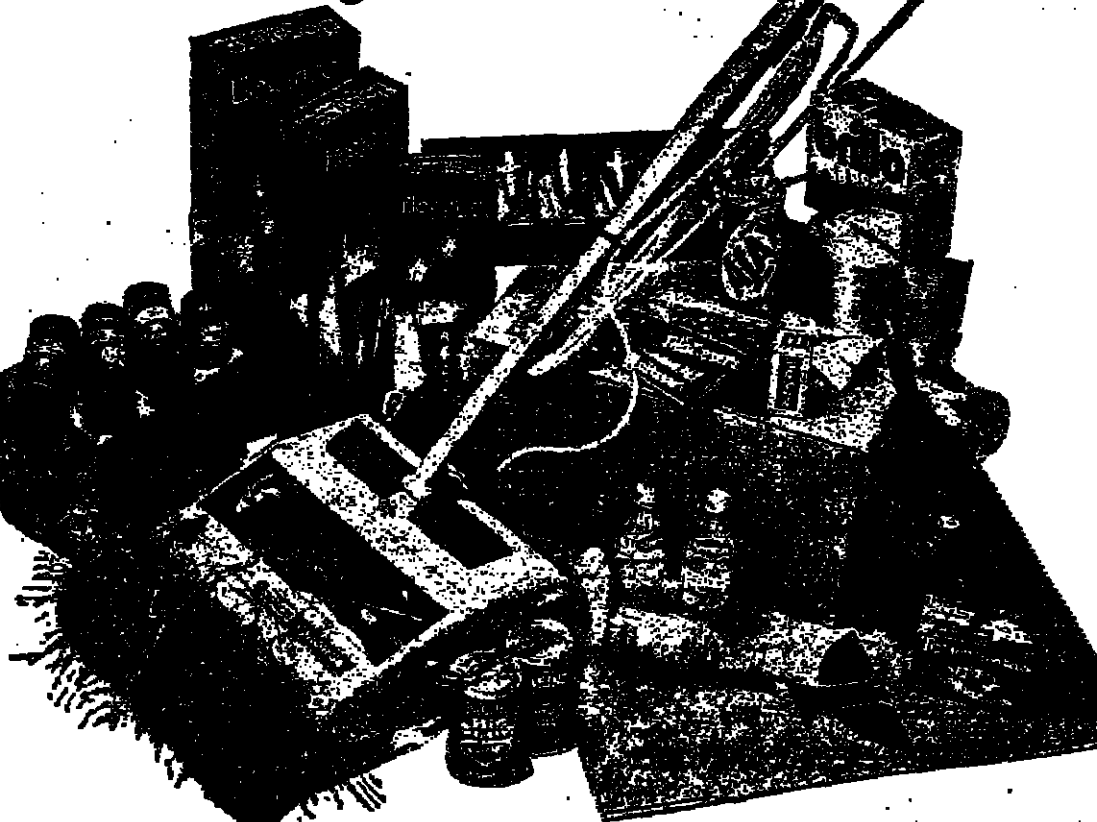
Mr. Peter Cranham has been made financial director of the Atco Group.

Mr. Brian Holland has become a director of Twidlock. Sir Neil Shields has been made a non-executive director of Pacific Engineering Holdings, Namsco and associated companies.

Mr. Frank Jones takes over as general manager of Lloyds Associated Banking Company from January 1. He succeeds Mr. Frank Foster, who becomes a deputy chief accountant of the bank.

Mr. Peter Clark has become managing director of John Breginal (Builders), succeeding his father, Mr. Percy Clark, who remains chairman.

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HEADLAM, SIMS & COGGINS LIMITED

INTERIM REPORT

(Unaudited Results)	Half Year to 31/7/77	Half Year to 31/7/76	Full Year to 31/7/77
£2,084,686	£1,536,583	£3,101,441	
Profit of the Group before Taxation	£165,316	115,789	213,414
Taxation (Estimated)	£33,400	61,000	114,353
Net Earnings per Ordinary Share	4.03p	2.69p	4.82p

ANOTHER RECORD YEAR IN PROSPECT

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Your Company has again made significant advances in both sales and profits.

SUBSIDIARIES

R. Coggins & Sons Limited (Industrial and Sports Footwear Manufacturers) has a strong order level and has made the major contribution to profits. Their second half year looks most promising.

Simlam Limited (Sports Footwear Distributors) has had excellent first half year's results. Historically, the second half year is seasonally affected and thus the outcome for this period is not expected to match that of the first half.

OUTLOOK

Overall, another record year is in prospect and it is confidently expected that the total dividend for the year will be the maximum permitted by current legislation.

DIVIDEND

Your Directors are declaring an interim dividend of 0.5p (net) per ordinary share to holders listed on the Register as at the 11th November 1977, the payment of which will be made on the 2nd December 1977.

A. H. COGGINS (Chairman)

Appointments Vacant

Production and Administration Manager

TIMES BOOKS, the book publishing subsidiary of Times Newspapers Limited, require a Production and Administration Manager at their premises in Oak Street, London W.1.

Applicants, male or female, must be fully experienced in all aspects of book production but must also be able to prepare to devote time to administration and process chasing in other fields than production, e.g. liaison with sales forces and overseas representatives. An attractive salary and good working conditions are offered.

Please write with full personal and career details to:—
Desmond Hayes
Employment Manager
THE TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED
P.O. Box 7
New Printing House Square
200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ

AIR NEW ZEALAND PASSENGER SALES MANAGER

U.K./EUROPE LONDON

This appointment is available through corporate expansion on 1 January 1978, at our Regional Headquarters in London. The Passenger Sales Manager will be responsible for the planning, direction, co-ordination and implementation of the Passenger Sales Department in the U.K. and Europe. He/she will report to the Marketing Manager.

Qualifications require a proven record of success and experience in passenger sales and management with a knowledge of the airline industry and a proven ability to manage a team. A flexible and adaptable personality, with a proven ability to work in a fast-paced environment, is essential. A minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar position is required. Details of salary and other benefits will be presented at the interview.

Closing date: 15 November 1977.
Please write to: Mr D. Coburn, Regional Manager, U.K./Europe, Air New Zealand, New Zealand House, London SW1V 4TH.

Economist Intelligence Unit

require

Librarian/Information Officer

for Special Library to supervise staff of six. Experience in an economics library or related field essential. Age 25-40.

Please telephone 01-493 6711, extn. 119.

EXPANDING COMPANY WITH OFFICES IN MAYFAIR IS LOOKING FOR A

SALESMAN

with experience in sales and marketing of steel, especially flat hot rolled products. Applicants (male or female) should have a working knowledge of one or more European languages, in addition to English. Knowledge of German desirable, but not essential. Please address your applications giving full particulars including salary required, to:

Box 2776 J, THE TIMES

SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES REQUIRED

with first-rate experience, preferably with office equipment or allied trades, to join highly successful international Company based in Mayfair. High remuneration and Company car plus out-of-pocket expenses paid. The position has progressive future ensured, promotion prospects at home and abroad are good. Write giving full details to:

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Company in the Steel sector with modern offices in Mayfair is looking for a

QUALIFIED ACCOUNTANT

with knowledge of languages, Greek desirable but not essential. Applicants are requested to send full particulars including salary required.

Box No. 2776 J, THE TIMES.

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Recruitment Consultants

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

Devon County Council

SOLICITOR'S

ARTICLED CLERK

A vacancy has arisen for an

articled clerk to the solicitor

in the County of Devon. The

applicant should be a graduate

of the Law and have completed

his articled clerkship. Salary

will be £2,500 per annum plus

expenses. Applications should

be sent to the County Clerk,

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EX1 1AA.

01-321 1234

Immediate consideration

will be given to applications

from graduates who have

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Magdalen College Development Trust Fund-Raising Executive

The Trust has the responsibility for a major programme of restoration and modernisation of the College's historic buildings. An Executive is required to manage and co-ordinate the fund-raising activities necessary to fulfil this task and to have responsibility for special relations between the College and its Old Members.

Proven achievement in business, industry or public service is important together with the ability to master a new discipline for which training will be provided.

Starting salary negotiable above £6,000 with prospects related to achievement.

Please telephone Oxford 49027 or write for information to: David Adams, The Development Office, Magdalen College, Oxford, OX1 4AU.

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Please telephone Oxford 49027 or write for information to: David Adams, The Development Office, Magdalen College, Oxford, OX1 4AU.

Proven achievement in business, industry or public service is important together with the ability to master a new discipline for which training will be provided.

Starting salary negotiable above £6,000 with prospects related to achievement.

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Please telephone Oxford 49027 or write for information to: David Adams, The Development Office, Magdalen College, Oxford, OX1 4AU.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HEAD TEACHERS

Appointment of

General Secretary

Applications are invited for this important post as the senior official of the largest Head Teachers' Association in the country. Successful candidate would be expected to assume duties on 1st April 1978 (or by arrangement in special cases). Salary scale applicable to Group 14 Head Teacher, at present under review. Starting point by negotiation.

Application forms and further details available from:—

General Secretary
National Association of Head Teachers
Maxwell House
41-43 Bolton Road
Haywards Heath
West Sussex RH16 1BJ



GENERAL MERCHANDISE MANAGER (Outdoor Interests)

Selective Merchandise is a new company which runs special offers for The Sunday Times and The Times. We require a high-calibre Merchandise Manager to complete our team. Ideally he or she will be a graduate with several years' successful experience in a similar position, with a knowledge of the market of consumer durables. Possession of a marketing/advertising/direct mail qualification will be helpful. We offer a salary in excess of £4,500 p.a., generous holidays and the benefits associated with a large company.

Please write giving full career details to: The Employment Manager, Times Newspapers Limited, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ.

Journalist

required by

Times Educational Supplement Scotland

Preferably a graduate with experience in news and features. Apply to the Editor, TES Scotland, 56 Hanover Street, Edinburgh.

FINANCE & ACCOUNTANCY

ACCOUNTANT

required for electrical

engineering company in

Croydon. Costing experience

more important than

qualifications. Salary

plus benefits £2,000+

Early prospects for

promotion.

Apply

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29 Lower Coombe St.,

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01-893 1234

Immediate consideration

will be given to applications

from graduates who have

completed their articled

clerkship. Applications should

be sent to the County Clerk,

County Council, Exeter, Devon

EX1 1AA.

01-321 1234

Immediate consideration

will be given to applications

from graduates who have

completed their articled

clerkship. Applications should

be sent to the County Clerk,

County Council, Exeter, Devon



-Managerial-Administrative-Secretarial-Personal Assistants-

PER Top Jobs for Executive Secretaries Top People

VICTORIA £3,800-£3,900
We require a SENIOR AUDIO SECRETARY for the Chief Executive of the overseas division of a World Famous Company. The job content is varied and very interesting, involving company administration, personnel and confidential work and contact with clients from overseas. The working conditions are excellent. 4 weeks holiday, staff restaurant, Staff shop, Season ticket, etc.
Contact: Miss Angela Moriarty 01-235 9984

BERKELEY SQ. £3,500-£4,000
A keen, capable secretary is urgently required by the Dynamic Sales Manager of a thriving company with world wide interests. Good secretarial skills and plenty of common sense are the essentials. Late twenties. 4 weeks holiday. Well subsidised canteen. Very pleasant offices.
Contact: Miss Jane Barnsley 01-235 9984

THE PERSONNEL DIRECTOR NEG. £3,700
Of a well known company near The Tower of London, needs a good secretarial back-up to assist with a variety of interesting tasks including Recruitment, Pension Scheme queries, organisation of meetings with other depts., etc. Must have administrative ability, probably aged 23-30. Exceptionally good benefits.
Contact: Mrs Jo Armit 01-235 9984

MAYFAIR £4,000-£4,500
A first-class SECRETARY BILINGUAL IN GERMAN, with good German and English shorthand and good typing skills, to give a complete back-up to the M.D. Must be smart and personable to meet clients and have a good telephone manner.
Contact: Mrs Dawn Shafer 01-235 9984

Late night opening 6.45 pm every Thursday.
Telephone Mrs Dorothy Allison (Manager) on 01-235 9984 for an appointment at
4-5 Grosvenor Place, Hyde Park Corner, SW1

SECRETARY ITALY

£25,000-£25,500 p.a. after tax

We require a top level Secretary for our Rome Office who should be of good appearance and pleasant personality.
The applicant must have outstanding linguistic ability in spoken and especially written English in order to correctly formulate complex agreements and business correspondence. To match this requirement, candidates will have reached a high level of education with possibly a legalistic background.
Good shorthand and fast typing capabilities are essential and the preferred age range for applicants is 25-35 years.
Applications giving age and full details of experience and education should be sent to:
Stirling International Civil Engineering Ltd.,
37 Upper Brook Street,
London, W1Y 1PE.

SMART AUDIO SECRETARIES Excellent Salaries

for Financial Organisation, West End

Due to expansion we urgently need an experienced Legal Audio Secretary salary circa £3,750 and an Audio Secretary to work for our Leasing Manager, salary circa £3,500.

Ideally both candidates should be aged between 20 and 35 with a mature attitude to hard work, good skills (no figure work) and a sense of humour.

We offer excellent working conditions and benefits including 4 weeks' holiday, BUPA, L.V.s and paid overtime when necessary.

Please telephone Janice Rowe on 486 7100

INTERESTING JOB PEER IS LOOKING FOR PERSONAL ASSISTANT

FOR LONDON OFFICE WHO CAN DRIVE DO RESEARCH TYPE AND KEEP CALM TELEPHONE: 438 3276 FOR INTERVIEW GOOD SALARY

Margery Hurst Centre

Two SENIOR SECRETARIES LONDON
Margery Hurst Centre requires two SENIOR SECRETARIES for its London Office. The job involves a wide range of administrative and secretarial duties. The successful candidates will be required to have excellent secretarial skills, a good knowledge of the English language, and the ability to work under pressure. The salary is £3,500 per annum. Applications should be sent to: Margery Hurst Centre, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0EX.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY IN P.R.

Working for Director of International Development in a P.R. office for a major international organisation. The job involves a wide range of administrative and secretarial duties. The successful candidates will be required to have excellent secretarial skills, a good knowledge of the English language, and the ability to work under pressure. The salary is £3,500 per annum. Applications should be sent to: Margery Hurst Centre, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0EX.

YOUNG SEC.—£4,000

Do you have plenty of responsibility? Then we are looking for a young, energetic, and ambitious person to join our team as a Young Secretary. The job involves a wide range of administrative and secretarial duties. The successful candidates will be required to have excellent secretarial skills, a good knowledge of the English language, and the ability to work under pressure. The salary is £4,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to: Margery Hurst Centre, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0EX.

A rare PA for a rare MD

It will take a person who's used to communicating at all levels, a PA in every sense of the word, to become our Managing Director's new Secretary.

Universal McCann is a young specialist communications agency that's developing rapidly. That growth is very much the full-time job of the MD - which will mean plenty of involvement, responsibility and pressure for you.

It's demanding. It's working for a super boss. And it's also probably just the kind of challenge you'd enjoy. In your mid-twenties, you'll already have reached board level in your secretarial career. This plum job must be the next logical step. And if you've already had experience in advertising so much the better.

Talk now to Maggie Shuck on 01-588 6890, 36 Howland Street, London W1P 6BD.

Universal McCann

Executive Secretary

Minimum £3,500 negotiable

The Director and Business General Manager of Plessey Radar, located near Weybridge in Surrey, needs an experienced secretary able to accept the responsibilities of a Personal Assistant. (Although shorthand and typing skills are essential, a degree level or equivalent. A knowledge of languages, although not essential, would be useful and desirable.)

We offer the opportunity of working out of town while retaining all the benefits of a large company, including an excellent pension and sickness scheme, generous holiday entitlement and a subsidised staff restaurant.

For an application form, please write or telephone Mrs. Theresa MacIntyre, Station Road, Addlestone, Weybridge, Surrey, Telephone Weybridge (0932) 47282 Ext. 189.

PLESSEY

BLUE CIRCLE GROUP

AUDIO SECRETARY (Victoria)

We have a vacancy for a cheerful Secretary (preferably age 21 to 35) with a good educational background and a high standard of typewriting. The work involves a wide range of administrative and secretarial duties. The successful candidates will be required to have excellent secretarial skills, a good knowledge of the English language, and the ability to work under pressure. The salary is £3,500 per annum. Applications should be sent to: Blue Circle Group, Portland House, Stag Place, London, SW1. Tel: 01-228 3455.

TRAINING FILMS INTERNATIONAL DISTRIBUTORS OF INDUSTRIAL TRAINING FILMS SEEK A LONDON REPRESENTATIVE

To run the Film Preview Service in their newly opened Great Portland Street premises. Key qualities required are attractive appearance and personality, a liking for meeting people, and a willingness to work on own initiative, to develop new leads for TFI's growing library of 1,000 films, video cassettes and slide programmes. Ability to type own correspondence essential. Marketing or public relations background an advantage. Salary negotiable. Preferred age 20-30.

Please apply in writing giving full details of career to date, to: John Minoprio, Training Films International Ltd., 159 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6PD.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES LTD.

PA-We have been asked to find first-class, career-minded people for the following positions:
EC4-Marking Age: min. 30 to £5,000
Requirements: Fluent German (French advantage); experience in a secretarial or administrative capacity; ability to type 40 wpm; good shorthand; good telephone skills; 100-120 60-70; must be able to handle a heavy workload; must be able to handle a heavy workload; must be able to handle a heavy workload.
W1-Recruitment field/Director level Age: 28-35 £4,000-£5,000
Requirements: Ability to withstand pressure; confidence; strong personality; excellent secretarial skills; good telephone skills; 100-120 60-70; must be able to handle a heavy workload; must be able to handle a heavy workload; must be able to handle a heavy workload.
73 New Bond Street, London, W1. 01-629 7382/8633 (agency)

INTERNATIONALIST?

Private Secretary (30-40) to a senior executive in a major international organisation. The job involves a wide range of administrative and secretarial duties. The successful candidates will be required to have excellent secretarial skills, a good knowledge of the English language, and the ability to work under pressure. The salary is £3,500 per annum. Applications should be sent to: Margery Hurst Centre, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0EX.

MULTILINGUAL SERVICES

(Recruitment Consultants)
22 Charing Cross Road, WC2
01-235 374/5

SHORTHAND SECRETARY

Gay, Partner dealing with company law needs someone with good skills who is prepared to be involved in a busy office in Berkeley Square. No salary. Ring Phillips on 491 3377. (no Agencies)

£4,000 ADMINISTRATIVE P.A./SEC.

Required for Property Consultant. The successful candidate will be required to have excellent secretarial skills, a good knowledge of the English language, and the ability to work under pressure. The salary is £4,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to: Margery Hurst Centre, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0EX.

BOND ST. BUREAU

(Recruitment Consultants)
629 3692 629 0641

PARIS-£6,000

We have a number of excellent opportunities for French to join top businessmen in international companies in Paris. Please telephone for interview in London or Paris.
DIRECTOR'S SECRETARIES
01-629 5223

SECRETARY TO MANAGING DIRECTOR Basingstoke

The Managing Director of Basingstoke requires an efficient, self-motivated Secretary to help him in his duties. The successful candidate will be required to have excellent secretarial skills, a good knowledge of the English language, and the ability to work under pressure. The salary is £3,500 per annum. Applications should be sent to: Basingstoke, Hants. Tel. Basingstoke (0256) 58222

CITY OF LONDON POLYTECHNIC Personal Assistant

Salary £3,948 to £3,970 with a pension scheme. The successful candidate will be required to have excellent secretarial skills, a good knowledge of the English language, and the ability to work under pressure. The salary is £3,948 to £3,970 with a pension scheme. Applications should be sent to: City of London Polytechnic, 21 Fenchurch Street, London EC3N 2AF.

TATE GALLERY PUBLISHING

Secretary/P.A. for Publications. The successful candidate will be required to have excellent secretarial skills, a good knowledge of the English language, and the ability to work under pressure. The salary is £3,500 per annum. Applications should be sent to: Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1P 3JG.

NORWAY

Existing international organization seeks expert clerk typist. The successful candidate will be required to have excellent secretarial skills, a good knowledge of the English language, and the ability to work under pressure. The salary is £3,500 per annum. Applications should be sent to: IMTEC, BOX 75, BLINDERN, OSLO 5, NORWAY.

SECRETARY/SHORTHAND TYPIST

Secretary/Shorthand Typist required by go-ahead Oxford Street Publishing House, specializing in the advertising field. The successful applicant will be highly competent and able to conduct own correspondence whenever necessary. The rewards will be more than adequate.
Phone: 01-429 4216
For appointment

ARE YOU SPECIAL?

Secretary/P.A. required by a major international organization. The successful candidate will be required to have excellent secretarial skills, a good knowledge of the English language, and the ability to work under pressure. The salary is £3,500 per annum. Applications should be sent to: Margery Hurst Centre, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0EX.

01-629 8516
(Mr Woolf) for reply

Reed Executive Secretaries

Specialists in Recruitment & Secretarial Staff

IMPROVE YOUR ASSETS

* Increased Productivity * Research & Development
* Investment * Diversification
* Selective Recruitment

We believe the last to be particularly important and reflect this in our professional service and commitment to each and every Client.

55 St Martin Lane, London WC2N 4EA, Tel 01-240 3331

Secretary/PA £3,500+

BOC International is looking for a top-flight secretary (male or female) to provide a comprehensive secretarial/PA service to one of our general managers. He is responsible for the co-ordination of sales business world-wide, involving a fair amount of travel and constant liaison with our overseas companies. His secretary must be capable of handling all day-to-day matters in his absence and take a genuine interest in the business in order to take on responsibilities independently.

Good shorthand and typing skills are essential as is the ability and enthusiasm to "grow with the job".

Please apply for an application form to:

Ms. W. H. R. Skinner,
Personnel Officer,
BOC Limited,
Hammermill House,
London W6 9DX.
01-748 2020

MARKETING CONSULTANTS-£4,500

A Personal Assistant with secretarial skills is needed to assist in the coordination of work flow and general office management of this small and highly successful marketing organisation dealing almost exclusively with the world of advertising.
Age 24-30.

STOCKBROKERS-£4,500

An Executive Secretary, preferably with a good knowledge of the City and its ways, is needed to assist the Managing Director for London who is also Vice President of this noted American firm. Previous stockbroking experience will help to realise the job's full potential.
Age 25-35.

Angela Mortimer Ltd
Recruitment Consultants
166 Piccadilly 499 5378

PERSONNEL ASSISTANT SECRETARY

CITY SHIPPING COMPANY

We need a Personnel Assistant Secretary to assist the Personnel Manager at our Head Office in the City. Your work will include a wide range of administrative, recruitment and interviewing duties. The successful candidate will be required to have excellent secretarial skills, a good knowledge of the English language, and the ability to work under pressure. The salary is £3,500 per annum. Applications should be sent to: Mr. R. A. Russell, Staff Manager, CITY STAR LINE LTD., ALBION HOUSE, 34 Leadenhall Street, London, E.C.3. 01-488 4567

c. £4,000 p.a.

P.A./SECRETARY/CHAUFFEUR/EUR

Quick, intelligent, responsible, well-groomed person able to act on own initiative, required by young businessman. Must be able to mix in high society one minute and be the manual servant the next. Spicy job for someone with style and a sense of humour.
PHONE 282 6935

CHRISTIE'S CONTEMPORARY ART

8 Dover Street, W.1

BOOKKEEPER

Come and join the best and fastest growing Print Gallery in London.
We need a Bookkeeper, experienced to Trial Balance without supervision who can also type. Age immaterial, hours flexible, salary competitive. Please write with curriculum vitae to Myles Cooke, 8 Dover Street, London, W.1.

£5,000

Entrepreneurial Chairman starting new Co. requires P.A., 25-35 to assist him. You must be well organised, energetic, have good skills, sound judgement and all the social graces.

UP TO £4,500

Executive Chairman of Social Research Institute requires a Personal Assistant with Sh./T. Call Mrs. Buchanan NEW BRIGHTONS Telephone 584 4223

SECRETARY

Preferred with property and legal experience. Good shorthand/typing essential. Excellent salary/conditions. Write in confidence with full details to:
LARGES ESTATES LTD.
85 Prince Albert Road, London N.W.2

AN EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY

exists for someone to combine first class secretarial/PA skills and experience with a thorough grounding in science at least to 'A' levels. Languages an added asset.

We are rapidly expanding ethical pharmaceutical company situated in beautiful country house surroundings. Our Director of Research is looking for an enthusiastic highly-intelligent, resourceful assistant to whom he can confidently delegate responsibilities associated with the development, licensing and sale of our products. An aptitude for literary research and an interest in pharmaceuticals are fundamental to this interesting position.

For someone wishing to retain and use their secretarial skills, but wanting also to extend their responsibilities in a small friendly company which recognises potential, this is a career opportunity seldom found and well rewarded.
Please write in confidence with full CV to:

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DERMAL LABORATORIES LTD.,
Talmore Place, Gosmore, nr. Hitchin, Herts. SG4 7QR

Make a date with Letts SECRETARY/PA

required for Group Company Secretary/Director of leading Dairy Manufacturing and Publishing Group. Applicants should have adequate shorthand and typewriting skills together with the appropriate commercial training and/or experience and must be able to work on their own initiative.

The work is interesting and varied and would ideally suit a person with some knowledge of book-keeping and/or legal matters.

Applicants must be accurate, conscientious and of pleasant personality.

Salary in the region of £3,500-£3,700 per annum plus usual benefits.

Please apply in confidence to the Personnel Department
CHARLES LETTS & COMPANY LTD.
Diary House, Borough Road, London SE1 1DW
01-407 8881

AREA MANAGER/ESS

We very much need someone with the knowledge of our Business to control a small number of successful West End Branches. Someone, maybe, like you, who has already headed a similar job - with success or someone who's looking for promotion and the opportunity to realise their full potential.

We'll give you that opportunity.

We'll give you a very good basic salary.

We'll give you realistic targets that mean you can build up that salary to an even more impressive size.

Call Roy Marks on 734 4168 and give us details about yourself, or write to: Roy Marks,

ALFRED MARKS STAFF BUREAU
11 SOHO SQUARE, LONDON W.1

Opportunity for a DYNAMIC AND QUALIFIED SECRETARY

TO WORK FOR A STEEL COMPANY WITH MODERN OFFICES IN MAYFAIR

Accurate typing and shorthand and interest in figure work. Knowledge of languages, preferably Greek, would be an advantage. Please address your applications with full particulars and salary required, to:
Box 2776 J, The Times

HAMBURG EXECUTIVE SECRETARY WITH ENGLISH/GERMAN/FRENCH

Experienced top flight Secretary to work in Engineering Office of large Marine Company. The ideal candidate will have fluent English/German/French and will also have English/German shorthand/typing. This is a superb job for someone prepared to become involved in all aspects of the company's business.
SALARY £7,500

Interviews in London Wednesday, 9th November only.

PLEASE TELEPHONE MRS. GRAY, 498 2645

PERSONNEL CONSULTANT

c. £4,000

We offer training. Travel possibilities. People contact at all levels. Responsibility. Opportunity for rapid promotion. We are the second largest personnel organisation worldwide and expanding. We are seeking several positive career orientated personnel consultants at our new regional offices in Victoria with solid academic backgrounds who want to contribute and grow with us.

Please call David Naylor
DRAKE PERSONNEL (Agency)
225 Regent Street W.1
437 4706

ADVERTISING ASSISTANT/SECRETARY £3,700

Humbro Life one of Britain's fastest growing life assurance companies requires an Assistant to help in the preparation of advertising, print and other marketing material, and to help maintain a high standard of advertising response. The job would also involve a small amount of secretarial duties.

The successful candidate is likely to have advertising experience, to be numerate and to have a pleasant telephone manner - shorthand is not a prerequisite.

The company is based in the West End and the job carries a salary of £3,700 p.a. 900 per day L.V.s, 4 weeks' holiday and free membership of BUPA.

CONTACT BARBARA THOMAS ON 01-499 0631

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY For Architects' Office in Baywater

At least four years' practical office experience and the ability to type and produce a knowledge of book-keeping. The work is interesting and varied and entails working with a friendly team. Salary is negotiable depending on age and experience and we offer generous L.V.s and a BUPA membership. PLEASE TELEPHONE MISS REARDON 487 4301

SMALL FRIENDLY OFFICE IN W.1

Requires the services of an individual with common sense and ability to type and produce a knowledge of book-keeping. The work is interesting and varied and entails working with a friendly team. Salary is negotiable depending on age and experience and we offer generous L.V.s and a BUPA membership. PLEASE TELEPHONE MISS REARDON 487 4301

MORE APPOINTMENTS ON

PAGE 30

THE WELLCOME TRUST

Competitive Award in Veterinary Medicine

The Trustees announce a competitive award of up to £125,000 over a period of up to five years for a major project in small animal medicine or surgery. (The purposes of this award the term "small animals" includes the horse.) Preference will be given to proposals relating to areas of particular clinical importance such as dermatology, urology and neurology.

In the first instance, those interested in applying should send a two page summary of their proposals, including a brief costing of the way the grant would be used. Further consideration of these summaries, selected candidates will be invited to submit detailed proposals. Summaries should be sent to the Grants Section of the Wellcome Trust, 1 Park Square West, London, NW1 4AL. Closing date 30th December 1977. Any application received after this date will not be considered.

EMANUEL SCHOOL, SW11 1HS

ASSISTED PLACES

Emmanuel School is an independent school for boys, aged 11-19. In the examinations for entry to the school in September 1978 a number of assisted places will be available. The value of these places will be determined according to parental circumstances. The examination for 11 year old entrants will be held on 1st February 1978 and the closing date for registration candidates will be 31st December 1977.

Places for 13 year old candidates will be awarded subject to satisfactory performance in the June session of the Common Entrance Examination to Public Schools, and the closing date for registration will be 31st December 1977.

Applications should be made on forms supplied in the School's Prospectus. Details of the School's facilities, staff, and fees are available on request. Emmanuel School, Watlington, Oxon. SW11 1HS. Tel. 01-875 0171.

BE SUCCESSFUL

In your exams, College courses, university courses, business courses, banking, bookkeeping, civil engineering, computer studies, local government, marketing, management studies, nursing, psychology, science, social studies, sports, teaching, travel, and many more. We have the courses, the staff, the facilities, and the success. Contact us today for a free prospectus. Emmanuel School, Watlington, Oxon. SW11 1HS. Tel. 01-875 0171.

NEW COLLEGE CHOIR

OXFORD

Voice Trial on Saturday, 14th January, 1978, for boys between 7 1/2 and 9 1/2. Free heard and reduced tuition fees for choristers at New College School, Normal school holidays. Particulars from the Headmaster, New College School, Savile Road, Oxford.

COLLEGE OF JOURNALISM

OXFORD

College of Journalism, Oxford, offers a three year course in Journalism, leading to a degree in Journalism. The course is taught by experienced journalists and includes practical training in writing, editing, and broadcasting. Contact: College of Journalism, Oxford, for a prospectus.

ANNE CODDEN

SECRETARIAL

College of Secretarial Studies, Oxford, offers a three year course in Secretarial Studies, leading to a degree in Secretarial Studies. The course is taught by experienced secretaries and includes practical training in typing, shorthand, and office management. Contact: College of Secretarial Studies, Oxford, for a prospectus.

INTENSIVE

SECRETARIAL

College of Secretarial Studies, Oxford, offers an intensive three year course in Secretarial Studies, leading to a degree in Secretarial Studies. The course is taught by experienced secretaries and includes practical training in typing, shorthand, and office management. Contact: College of Secretarial Studies, Oxford, for a prospectus.

BADMINTON SCHOOL

WESTBURY-ON-TRIM

Three Open Scholarships of up to £750 per annum will be offered on the result of the Badminton School Scholarship Examination, held in February 1978. In addition, one free place may be offered. Further particulars may be obtained from the Headmaster.

BBC 1

19.15-11.00 am. You and Me.

19.15-11.00 am. You and Me. 1.00. Pebble. 1.45-2.00. The Plumps. 2.00. Volunteers. 3.55. Play. 4.00. Secret Squirrel. 4.15. Jackanory. 4.30. The Plumps. 4.45. John Craven. 5.00. The King of the Grass. 5.15. The Plumps. 5.30. The Plumps. 5.45. The Plumps. 6.00. The Plumps. 6.15. The Plumps. 6.30. The Plumps. 6.45. The Plumps. 7.00. The Plumps. 7.15. The Plumps. 7.30. The Plumps. 7.45. The Plumps. 8.00. The Plumps. 8.15. The Plumps. 8.30. The Plumps. 8.45. The Plumps. 9.00. The Plumps. 9.15. The Plumps. 9.30. The Plumps. 9.45. The Plumps. 10.00. The Plumps. 10.15. The Plumps. 10.30. The Plumps. 10.45. The Plumps. 11.00. The Plumps.

BBC 2

10.20 am. Gharbar. 10.45. Paroski. 11.00-11.25. Play School.

10.20 am. Gharbar. 10.45. Paroski. 11.00-11.25. Play School. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45. Play. 11.00. Play. 11.15. Play. 11.30. Play. 11.45. Play. 12.00. Play. 12.15. Play. 12.30. Play. 12.45. Play. 1.00. Play. 1.15. Play. 1.30. Play. 1.45. Play. 2.00. Play. 2.15. Play. 2.30. Play. 2.45. Play. 3.00. Play. 3.15. Play. 3.30. Play. 3.45. Play. 4.00. Play. 4.15. Play. 4.30. Play. 4.45. Play. 5.00. Play. 5.15. Play. 5.30. Play. 5.45. Play. 6.00. Play. 6.15. Play. 6.30. Play. 6.45. Play. 7.00. Play. 7.15. Play. 7.30. Play. 7.45. Play. 8.00. Play. 8.15. Play. 8.30. Play. 8.45. Play. 9.00. Play. 9.15. Play. 9.30. Play. 9.45. Play. 10.00. Play. 10.15. Play. 10.30. Play. 10.45.

